

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-962

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF CERTAIN RODENTICIDES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Revenue Gain	Potential	Potential
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Cost	47,311	64,659
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	20,259	27,687

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which prohibits the sale or distribution of rodenticides and makes related changes, results in costs to the state of \$67,570 beginning in FY 24 (for nine months) and \$92,346 in FY 25 for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to carry out the bill's requirements. The bill also results in a potential revenue gain beginning in FY 24 associated with enforcement of the ban.

The bill charges DEEP with enforcement and requires the department to classify all second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides as "restricted use" pesticides. The department is expected to require an additional Environmental Analyst 2 to handle the bill's requirements. The costs of the position are: (1) \$47,311 to DEEP in FY 24 for salary; and

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 42.82% of payroll in FY 24.

(2) \$20,259 in FY 24 to the Office of the State Comptroller for associated fringe benefits, for nine months. Annualized costs in FY 25 are \$64,659 to DEEP and \$27,687 for fringe benefits.

Currently, there are no DEEP staff solely tasked with identification of rodenticide products; the new staff person would be tasked with this in addition to performing the product reclassification along with inspection and enforcement activities. There are presently two dedicated staff at DEEP who are responsible for all pesticide registration and classification (including aquatic permitting), and there are currently over 13,000 pesticide product registrations within the Pesticide Management Program.

Regarding inspections and enforcement, there are currently three staff at DEEP performing all pesticide inspections and a portion of a staff position performing enforcement activities for both pesticide laws of approximately 1,100 registered pesticides (and arborist businesses), approximately 9,000 commercial pesticide applicators, 500 certified private applicators (farms), and an unknown number of pesticide retailers.

The bill also establishes a civil penalty of \$5,000 through the DEEP for anyone who violates the rodenticide prohibition. This results in a potential revenue gain beginning in FY 24, to the extent that there are violations and enforcement.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and changes in staff wages and benefits.