



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

March 7, 2022

Environment Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 3200  
Hartford, CT 06106  
Phone: 860-240-0440; Email: [envtestimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:envtestimony@cga.ct.gov)

**Re: SUPPORT (with AMENDMENT) SB 239, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF CERTAIN RODENTICIDES FOR THE PROTECTION OF HAWKS, RAPTORS AND OTHER WILDLIFE<sup>1</sup>**

Dear Co-Chair Cohen, Co-Chair Gresko, Vice Chair Slap, Vice Chair Palm, Ranking Member Miner, Ranking Member Harding, and Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

On behalf of the Connecticut-based supporters of The Humane Society of the United States, the largest animal protection organization in the country, please accept this public hearing testimony in SUPPORT (with AMENDMENT) of SB 239, which would ban Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGAR) and limit use of First Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (FGAR) on state property. The suggested amendment is to extend the ban to both state and private lands, as the spread of these toxins throughout the food chain does not discriminate based on property lines.

FGARs have a cumulative effect in non-targeted wildlife and have lost effectiveness on rodent populations. SGARs are more toxic, remain longer in the environment, and are more deadly to non-targeted victims.<sup>2,3</sup>

Humane solutions exist, like sanitation and exclusion, and deterrents like cayenne pepper, botanical repellents,<sup>4</sup> and fertility control.<sup>5</sup>

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

**Annie Hornish**  
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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&which\\_year=2022&bill\\_num=239](https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&which_year=2022&bill_num=239)

<sup>2</sup> Mice who consume the poisons do not die immediately of the internal bleeding (the mechanism of these poisons); death can take days or longer, during which time the poisoned animals may be vulnerable to predators. In eating poisoned prey animals, predators accumulate toxins and are indirectly poisoned.

<sup>3</sup> A 2020 Tufts University hawk study and an ongoing Connecticut study by A Place Called Hope in Killingworth, CT ([www.aplacecalledhoperaptors.com](http://www.aplacecalledhoperaptors.com)) both found 100% of raptors tested to be positive for these pesticides. Further, nearly all birds tested positive for two or more different types of anticoagulant rodenticides.

<sup>4</sup> Example: <https://www.earthkind.com/product/fresh-cab-rodent-repellent/>

<sup>5</sup> Example: <https://senestech.com/contrapest/>