



## Santa Cruz Bird Club

P.O. Box 1304  
Santa Cruz, CA 95061  
santacruzbirdclub.org

March 30, 2018

Dear Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials (ESTM) Committee:

We urge you to **support AB2422** and ban the use of anticoagulant rodenticides in California.

Like the Chemical DDT, anticoagulants are killing not only the rodents they are meant for but being carried throughout the food chain and poisoning the natural predators which feed on them. This includes owls, hawks, bobcats, mountain lions and even domestic cats.

Its true, poisons can be effective and fast. But often the more experienced and humane exterminators find that the cause of rodent infestation can be managed by other long-term solutions. If the cause of rodent infestation isn't eliminated the rodents are back in a short time.

Eliminating rodent nests sites, eliminating food sources, sealing up wall space, providing nesting boxes for owls, (a Barn Owl family can consume 36-70 rodents in one evening), and using metal food storage bins is often all that is needed. There are many other solutions too; these are just a few.

At no other time in human history have so many native birds and wildlife been at the brink of extinction. This may not be a convenient choice for many and big business will urge you to not adopt this critically needed piece of legislation. Remember the time when the auto industry fought safety belt laws? In the end it was the "right" thing to do!

Respectfully,

Lisa Sheridan  
Santa Cruz Bird Club President