



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 28 2022

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2146 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit the sale, possession, and use of neonicotinoid pesticides for application to outdoor ornamental plants, trees, or turf, with exemptions for environmental emergencies, and certified applicators.

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has a mission to protect human health and the environment from adverse impacts of pesticides by regulating pesticide sales and use and fostering reduced-risk pest management. DPR has already taken significant steps to restrict neonicotinoid uses, based on scientific review and documented uses that pose the greatest risks to pollinators and human health. The department is finalizing regulations on the agricultural use of neonicotinoids and will begin the process of evaluating non-agricultural uses next year.

My Administration takes the impacts of harmful chemicals on our people and environment seriously. I have tasked DPR to accelerate a systemwide transition to safer, more sustainable pest management. By statutorily prohibiting a pesticide and its use, this bill would circumvent California's regulatory process of establishing restricted materials.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom