



PCOC 2016 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

SUPPORT

AB 551 (Nazarian)

This is the "Bed Bug Bill. This bill would prescribe the duties of landlords, tenants and PCO's with regard to bed bug infestations and subsequent treatments.

Landlords:

- * Provide a prospective tenant, on and after July 1, 2016 and to all other tenants by January 1, 2017 information about bed bugs as specified.
- * Requires landlord to retain the services of a PCO within 5 business days of notification for a prescribed inspection of an infested unit.
- * If an infestation is confirmed, the landlord must notify the tenant within 2 business days and the landlord must prepare and implement a bed bug treatment program within a reasonable amount of time.
- * Must provide the affected tenants with information on bed bugs and the treatment plan.

Tenants

- * Prohibits the tenant from bringing items on to a property that are infested or reasonably should know are infested.
- * Must notify a landlord within 7 calendar days of becoming aware of an infestation.
- * Must prepare the unit for treatment as prescribed by the landlords treatment plan.

PCO's

- * Provide landlord a Bed Bug Management Plan consistent with NPMA best practices for bed bug control.
- * Record all aspects of service provided in a "Complaint Log".
- * Provide inspection services to Landlords that comply.
- * Treat infested units within 10 days of identification.
- * Follow NPMA BMP's for treatment of Bed Bugs.

Position

PCOC supports this bill. Bed bugs are one of the most difficult pests to control. Effective control of bed bugs requires thorough education and extensive knowledge of all available treatment options. PCO's are licensed and trained on a continual basis and are up to date on the latest treatment strategies and products. Proper strategies and use of products will give us the highest level of consumer protection.

AB 1874 (Wood)

This is one of three bills that carry changes to the Structural Pest Control Act as recommended by the Structural Pest Control Board. This bill would require "Qualifying Managers" to be physically present at the principal office or branch location for 72 hours for every three months. This activity must be documented and the documentation must be provided to the board upon request.

Position

PCOC strongly supports this bill and all other bills that have content originating from the Act Review committee and approved by the Board.

Talking Points

- * This small change helps protect consumers by assuring that Qualifying Managers will be directly involved in the businesses that they are overseeing.
- * There is no additional fees or licensing required with this change.

AB 2529 (Linder)

This bill would make two changes: The first would adjust the language of the Structural Pest Control Act to allow for the use of unlicensed employees to complete tasks for licensed Branch I II and III companies. Examples may include a Branch II company employing a carpenter to assist with rodent exclusion.

The second would clarify the circumstances upon which a County Ag Commissioner can apply fines to employers and employees when there is a violation by an employee.

Position

PCOC strongly supports this bill and all other bills that have content originating from the Act Review committee and approved by the board.

Talking Points

- * These changes would clarify the regulations of an important section of the Structural Pest Control Act.
- * The second change will increase consumer protection by clarifying enforcement standards of safety protocol with employers and employees.

SB 1039 (Hill)

This is the third bill that we support that carries changes to the Act for our industry. This bill has content that covers dentistry and nursing issues as well. The content in the bill related to Pest Control will update and clarify sections of the Structural Pest Control Act that govern the process for issuing reports of licensed inspectors. It expands record keeping requirements to cover the time period of warranties.

Position

PCOC strongly supports this bill and all other bills that have content originating from the Act Review committee and approved by the board.

Talking Points

- * This bill increases consumer protection by expanding record keeping requirements for agreements that have multiyear warranties.
- * It clarifies important functions of the issuing of reports generated by licensed PCOs.

OPPOSE

AB 2596 (Bloom)

This bill would ban all rodenticides in the State of California with the exception of zinc phosphide and strychnine. There are non-target wildlife animals that are consuming rodents that have feed on bait material. Some of these animals have been sickened and a few have died. In order to protect wildlife Mr. Bloom has proposed that we ban all rodenticides in our state.

While PCOC has great concern for the California environment we think this proposal will greatly damage public health and major sectors of the California economy.

Position

PCOC strongly opposes this bill as a part of a broad coalition of Pest Control Industries, Food Manufacturing and Handling Industries and Public Health Entities.

Talking Points

- * This ban will lead to an explosion in the rodent population of California's homes, businesses and industry.
- * According to the Center for Disease Control - rodents vector 35 diseases that are harmful. The effect on Public Health would be devastating.
- * There will be untold economic damage to California's food industry from farm to fork as rodent populations explode.
- * PCOC has suggested multiple strategies that could be employed to protect wildlife and still protect public health. These suggestions were all rejected by the authors office.

SB 1246 (Nguyen)

This bill would set in place several requirements for notification prior to the aerial application of pesticides in residential areas.

Position

PCOC opposes this bill as it places an unneeded burden on those who are making aerial applications to protect public health. Additional delays to applications can provide time for massive mosquito reproduction and a potential for the diseases that they carry to be spread.

Talking Points

- * Aerial pesticides have already been studied and approved for use by the Federal EPA and the California Department of Pesticides.
- * They are a critical tool for protecting public health from mosquito borne diseases such as the Zika virus and West Nile virus.
- * Timing is everything in responding to these issues and any delay is an unwarranted risk of public health.