



VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

Municipal Building

7 Maple Avenue

Hastings-on-Hudson, New York 10706

RESOLUTION

On motion of Trustee Lambert, seconded by Trustee Drake the following Resolution was duly adopted:

94:21 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE *BIRDS AND BEES PROTECTION ACT* [New York S699B (Hoylman et al.)/A7429 (Englebright et al.)]

- WHEREAS,** the *Birds and Bees Protection Act* concerns use of neonicotinoids, or “neonics,” which is a class of neurotoxic pesticides that includes imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, clothianidin, dinotefuran, and acetamiprid;
- WHEREAS,** research shows that widespread use of neonics is a leading cause of declines in honey bees as well as wild pollinators and a threat to birds, fish, and entire ecosystems;
- WHEREAS,** New York’s agricultural economy depends on healthy populations of bees and other pollinators to produce valuable and healthy foods like apples, squash, tomatoes, cherries and other top crops, worth an estimated \$439 million annually;
- WHEREAS,** the United States Environmental Protection Agency and other independent research have found that neonics can harm human health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have found that half of Americans are regularly exposed to neonics;
- WHEREAS,** Federal and State water testing has detected neonics in waters across New York State, with 30% of Long Island groundwater samples containing a neonic;
- WHEREAS,** a recent Cornell University review of over 1,100 peer reviewed papers on neonics and cost-benefit analysis of neonics against their likely alternatives (“Cornell Report”) concluded that neonic-treatments on corn, soybean, and wheat seeds—which account for roughly three-quarters of all neonic use in New York agriculture—produce “no overall net-income benefit” to farmers using them;
- WHEREAS,** the Cornell Report also found that non-agricultural, turf and ornamental neonic uses—with the exception of certain treatments for invasive species—were similarly unneeded or replaceable with safer, effective alternatives;
- WHEREAS,** the bill would: (1) prohibit sale and use of neonic-treated corn, soybean, and wheat seeds effective January 1, 2024; (2) prohibit non-agricultural uses of neonics on turf and ornamental plants, effective January 1, 2023; and (3) require the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to consider designating other neonic uses as a “restricted use pesticide” in order to protect bee and bird populations; and (4) require DEC, in collaboration

with the Department of Agriculture and Markets at Cornell University, to study alternatives to neonics;

WHEREAS, a “restricted use pesticide” is a pesticide that can be purchased, possessed, or used only by a person with a commercial or purchase permit issued by DEC, and that may be subject to other restrictions on its use as determined by DEC;

WHEREAS, the bill allows DEC to permit use of neonics to combat invasive species, including but not limited to emerald ash-borer and hemlock wooly adelgid; and

WHEREAS, the *Birds and Bees Protection Act* addresses a serious threat to pollinators and ecosystems and safeguards the future of New York’s food system by banning high risk, low-to-no benefit uses of neonics.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson:


1. Does hereby support S699B/A7429, banning neonic-treated corn, soybean, and wheat and most outdoor, non-agricultural uses of neonics; and
2. Will provide a copy of this resolution to our local New York Assembly and Senate representatives, [Hon. Thomas J. Abinanti and Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins].

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Mary Lambert	X	
Trustee Thomas Drake	X	
Trustee Morgen Fleisig	X	
Trustee Georgia Lopez	X	
Mayor Nicola Armacost	X	

CERTIFICATION

I, Joseph L. Cerretani, Village Clerk of Hastings-on-Hudson, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the Resolution adopted at the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees on August 31, 2021 with the original now remaining on file at this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson this 1st day of September 2021.



Joseph L. Cerretani
Village Clerk