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**From:** George & Patty Egbert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 08, 2018 7:20 PM  
**To:** Pesticides <Pesticides@maine.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter in support of IPM

Good evening,

Attached is our letter in support of the passage of a resolution by the Board to uphold their duty and to take the appropriate means necessary to promote IPM. We respectfully ask that the Maine Board of Pesticides Control Members take this letter into consideration at the meeting on August 15.

Thank you,

George and Patricia Egbert  
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August 8, 2018

Dear Maine Board of Pesticides Control Members,

We're writing to express concern with efforts to erode the practice and support for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in our state. As residents and owners of a local lawn care company, my husband and I rely on IPM. It's the policy of the state and the proven, most effective method for pest management.

A number of towns have recently enacted laws undermining IPM and its methodology. Prohibiting us and other residents from using the appropriate strategy for managing pests completely undermines the spirit and context of IPM. It is an important remit of the Board of Pesticides Control to promote this policy and technique in conjunction with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Integrated Pest Management Council.

We ask that you pass a resolution to uphold your duty as a Board and take the appropriate means necessary to promote IPM as the policy of the state, contribute to town discussions where IPM is under discussion, and see that we can continue to practice IPM throughout the state.

In addition to all of the reasons above for continuing policies and regulations in support of IPM, the local pesticide ordinances are being made with no enforcement and no purpose. They act as a solution in search of a problem that does not exist. Businesses are disadvantaged because they must comply and know about the ban, while consumers continue to use products most likely because they do not know about the ban and would not support it. We have become acutely aware of this as the pesticide ordinance has gone into effect in South Portland – and soon in Portland.

We see many problems arising if the Board does not uphold their duty to promote IPM as the policy of the state.

Thank you,

George and Patricia Egbert  
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Gorham, ME 04038