



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
28 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

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JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL
COMMISSIONER

Memorandum

To: Board of Pesticides Control
From: Alexander Peacock, Director
Subject: LD 1323: Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Evaluate the Impact of Neonicotinoids on Pollinators, Humans and the Environment

November 21, 2025

Background

Maine's 132nd Legislature recently passed LD 1323: Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Evaluate the Impact of Neonicotinoids on Pollinators, Humans, and the Environment.

BPC staff have initiated a Request for Proposals (RFP) to contract with a research firm to compile a literature and scientific review of the seven action items in Section 1 of the resolve.

Staff are seeking input from the Board regarding the handling of stakeholder input required under Section 2 of the Resolve. Would the Board prefer a survey or an in-person/written stakeholder comment period? What is the perceived timeline for stakeholder input?

Staff is also interested in any specific elements the Board feels are necessary in the preliminary report to the ACF committee due on January 15, 2026.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

H.P. 858 - L.D. 1323

**Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Evaluate the Impact of
Neonicotinoids on Pollinators, Humans and the Environment**

Sec. 1. Board of Pesticides Control to study neonicotinoids. Resolved: That the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control, referred to in this resolve as "the board," shall study:

1. The impacts of neonicotinoids, including neonicotinoid-treated seeds, on pollinators;
2. The costs and benefits of neonicotinoid-treated seeds compared to untreated seeds, including the market availability of neonicotinoid-treated seeds compared to untreated seeds;
3. The impact of neonicotinoids on the environment, including, but not limited to, soil, water and plant tissues;
4. The toxicity of neonicotinoids to humans;
5. Alternatives to neonicotinoid seed treatments for the protection of crops from damaging pests and disease;
6. The toxicity of effective alternatives to neonicotinoids and neonicotinoid-treated seeds that may be used for the protection of crops from damaging pests and disease; and
7. Methods of application of alternatives to neonicotinoids and neonicotinoid-treated seeds and the required number of applications for effectiveness.

In conducting the study under this section, the board shall give special consideration to effects on potato crops and corn crops.

Sec. 2. Request for information. Resolved: That the board shall solicit feedback regarding ideas and insights on the topic of the study, pursuant to section 1, from the public, stakeholders and interested parties through either a public hearing or a request for information document.

Sec. 3. Reports. Resolved: That the board shall submit a preliminary report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry no later than January 15, 2026 and shall submit a final report with findings and recommendations relating to the

subject matter of the study under section 1 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters no later than January 15, 2027. The joint standing committee may submit a bill to the 133rd Legislature in 2027 relating to the subject matter of the final report.

Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF

Pesticides Control - Board of 0287

Initiative: Provides funding for contractual services to research the effects of neonicotinoids.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$156,500	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$156,500	\$0