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THIRD READING

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Bill No: SB 489  
Author: Laird (D)  
Amended: 3/24/21  
Vote: 21

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SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 5-0, 3/18/21  
AYES: Borgeas, Hurtado, Caballero, Eggman, Glazer

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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**SUBJECT:** Pest control: Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee

**SOURCE:** Author

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**DIGEST:** This bill increases the public members on the Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee within the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) from one to two members.

**ANALYSIS:** Existing law created the Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee within the Department of Pesticide Regulation to advise the director in all matters concerning licensing, certification, and regulation of persons and firms licensed or certified for pest control operations. Existing law sets forth the composition of the advisory committee, including one member representing the general public. [*Food and Ag Code 12042*]

This bill increases the number of members representing the general public from one to two.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

**SUPPORT:** (Verified 4/21/21)

Consumer Watchdog

**OPPOSITION:** (Verified 4/21/21)

None received

**ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:** According to the author:

SB 489 ensures greater transparency of pesticide use in business, consumer, and commercial affairs. Increasing consumer representation on the Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee (APCAC) is vital to empowering consumer voices in the committee's recommendations to the Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

Similarly, in 2008, I introduced the Invasive Pest Planning Act, AB 2763, which aimed to put in place a pest planning process that prevents the kind of public fear and confusion experienced with the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM). With SB 489, transparency about environmental related issues is addressed. The bill will ensure that the APCAC's board decisions, recommendations, and advisory include diverse perspectives and appropriately represent the public on issues that affect all Californians.

Consumer Watchdog wrote in support stating an additional public member on the Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee would "increase representation of consumer interests, which benefits all Californians."

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / 916-651-1508  
4/21/21 15:12:17

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