

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 1505 (Committee on Agriculture)

As Amended June 19, 2025

Majority vote

SUMMARY

This bill extends the Vertebrate Pest Control Research (VPCR) program to 2035. The VPCRs current repeal date is January 1, 2026. Additionally, this bill would clarify current law to specify that a medically important antimicrobial drug only be administered to livestock when it is ordered by a licensed veterinarian and meets the requirements of federal and state law, along with the already established Business Professions Code Section 4826.6 requirements. Finally, this bill would add enforcement to the certified mobile farmers' market to mirror enforcement provisions of "static" certified farmers' markets.

Senate Amendments

Add the following:

- 1) Clarifies and conforms the medically important antimicrobial drug code to comply with federal and state, as well as Business Professions Code 4826.6 that is already required to be in compliance with.
- 2) Adds enforcement to certified mobile farmers' markets allowing an enforcing officer to inspect documents, products, containers and equipment and take samples to inspect and test. The enforcing officer may also seize and hold as evidence specified products in violation of this chapter. This enforcement models the current enforcement provisions for "static" certified farmers' markets.

COMMENTS

VPCR research projects investigate effective and economical alternative materials for the control of vertebrate pests. The Vertebrate Pest Control Research Advisory Committee (VPCRAC) solicit and consider research proposals for alternative humane methods of control, and continue the state's current vertebrate pest control product registrations until such time as effective alternative products are available.

This research is for the development of scientific data required to maintain registrations. VPCRAC cooperates with the US Department of Agriculture in funding research programs to maintain, develop, and register vertebrate pest control materials used in California.

VPCR will be repealed on January 1, 2026. This bill will extend the VPCR until January 1, 2035.

The enforcement provisions for the certified mobile farmers' markets are requested by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

FAC section 14401 need clarifying amendments to specify a medically important antimicrobial drug shall not be administered to livestock unless ordered by a licensed veterinarian through a prescription or Veterinary Feed Directive, pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship that meets the requirements of federal and state law, rather than BPC section 4826.6.

According to the Author

Each year, various private and public groups discover minor problems with state statutes affecting agriculture and policies under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Agriculture. These minor problems do not warrant separate and costly bills. According to the Legislative Analyst, the cost of producing a bill in 2001-02 was \$17,890.

"Legislators respond by combining several of these minor topics into an annual "omnibus bill." In 2022, for example, the Assembly Committee on Agriculture (Ag Com) omnibus bill was AB 1959 (Ag Com) which contained noncontroversial statutory changes to three areas of local government law, avoiding approximately \$35,780 in legislative costs. Although this practice may violate a strict interpretation of the single-subject and germaneness rules as presented in *Californians for an Open Primary v. McPherson* (2006), it is an expeditious and relatively inexpensive way to respond to multiple requests.

Arguments in Support

None on file

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

Because this bill extends the sunset date and authorizes continued operation of the VPCR program, this analysis attributes the future costs of administering the program to the bill. The ongoing costs to CDFA to administer the VPCR program is in the mid-hundreds of thousands of dollars annually (Vertebrate Pest Control Research Account (Account), Department of Food and Agriculture Fund).

CDFA notes the program is currently established with an annual budget of approximately \$500,000; however, these costs will continue to be covered exclusively by cost recovery and an assessment on the sale of vertebrate pest control materials sold, distributed, or used by County Agricultural Commissioners (CACs).

VOTES:**ASM AGRICULTURE: 8-0-0**

YES: Soria, Alanis, Aguiar-Curry, Connolly, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Irwin, Ransom

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 14-0-1

YES: Wicks, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

ABS, ABST OR NV: Sanchez

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0-0

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom,

Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

SENATE FLOOR: 35-0-5

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ABS, ABST OR NV: Alvarado-Gil, Becker, Padilla, Reyes, Umberg

UPDATED

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