

Date of Hearing: April 30, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Esmeralda Soria, Chair
AB 1505 (Committee on Agriculture) – As Introduced February 25, 2025

SUBJECT: Pest control: vertebrate pest control research: repeal extension

SUMMARY: This bill extends the Vertebrate Pest Control Research (VPCR) program to 2035. The VPCRs current repeal date is January 1, 2026.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) Requires the Secretary (secretary) of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to establish and administer a research program to control vertebrate pests, as specified. *Food and Agriculture Code (FAC) 6025.5.*
- 2) Requires the secretary to establish the VPCR Advisory Committee, and requires the committee to make recommendations to the secretary regarding vertebrate pest control research each year. *FAC 6026*
- 3) Requires each county agricultural commissioner to pay a specified fee to the secretary based on the amount of vertebrate pest control material sold, distributed, or applied in the county, as specified. *FAC 6027.5*
- 4) Establishes the VPCR account in the CDFA Fund, and continuously appropriates the moneys in the account to the secretary for specified purposes. *FAC 6027*
- 5) Repeals these provisions on January 1, 2026. *FAC 6029*

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown

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 maintains a staff of biologists with expertise in regulatory weed and vertebrate pest eradication and suppression programs directed at vertebrate pests of limited distribution. The project also provides general supervision, technical assistance and training in vertebrate pest control to county agricultural commissioner personnel engaged in regulatory vertebrate pest control activities.

VPCR will be repealed on January 1, 2026.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

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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