Petition to New York

Deadline: Please return as soon as possible, petitions will be delivered soon.

Return to DCS, P. O. Box 35, Narrowsburg, NY 12764

and DCS will submit it to NY State Legislators and Gov. Hochul

Petition to pass the Protect New York's Birds, Bees, Water, and Health from Neonics In Support of the Birds and Bees Protection Act (A7429/S699B)

Dear NY Senators and Representatives,

The undersigned hereby submit this petition requesting that the New York State legislature pass the Protect New York's Birds, Bees, Water, and Health from In Support of the Birds and Bees Protection Act (A7429/S699B)

Neonics are not compatible with the health and longterm viability of NY's health, agriculture and basic ecology, because of their toxic and persistent qualities.

I sign this petition as a Concerned Citizen - I live, work, care about the viability of, have interests in or visit New York State. Please see the details on the back and in the accompanying flyer which will be given to the legislators and Governor.

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(Continue Signatures on the Back)

Neonicotinoids or "neonics" are neurotoxic pesticides linked to massive bee and insect losses around the globe and, increasingly, to vast water and soil contamination, ecosystem-wide harms, and human health concerns in New York. Cornell University research reveals that the neonic uses that pose the greatests threats to New York's bees are also those that provide little-to-no benefits to users or are easily replaceable with safer alternatives. The Birds and Bees Protection Act (A7429-Englebright/ S699B-Hoylman) prohibits these wasteful uses—specifically, neonic-treated corn, soybean, and wheat seeds and non-agricultural, turf and ornamental uses—to provide a targeted, science-based approach to address the heart of New York's neonic contamination crisis, benefiting New York's environment, agricultural economy, and health.

Neonics Are Toxic, Persistent, and Everywhere – As the world's most widely used insecticides, neonics have made U.S. agriculture 48-times more harmful to insects since their introduction in the mid-1990s. Neonics permeate plants—turning their nectar, pollen, and fruittoxic. They can be applied to a plant's roots or as a coating on a crop seed, which the entire plant then absorbs as it grows. Neonics also persist in soil, where they are easily carried long distances by rain or irrigation water. Today, neonics broadly contaminate New York's water, soil, and plants, concentrating in areas of year-after-year use.

Neonics Kill Bees – Neonics are extremely toxic to insects, including bees. A robust body of scientific evidence links neonic use to massive bee population losses, including two comprehensive worldwide academic assessments... threatening the state's ecosystems and the top state crops like apples, squash, tomatoes, blueberries, strawberries, cherries, and pears. **Neonics Kill Birds** – Research links neonics to large declines in U.S. bird species ⁵ — contributing to the 30% decline in North American birds seen in the last 50 years. Eating just one neonic-treated seed is enough to kill some songbirds, and even at low doses, neonics can harm birds'

Neonics Contaminate New York Water and Debilitate Ecosystems, Harming Fish, Deer, and Other Wildlife, New York's billion-dollar tourism and recreation industries. Neonic water contamination has also been linked to harm to bats and birth defects in white-tailed deer. 9

We are determined to prevent that damage, as we believe NY State must also be. It is with this regard for the health of NY and all its present and future inhabitants that we petition the legislature to pass **The Birds and Bees**Protection Act (A7429-Englebright/ S699B-Hoylman)

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