

**Letter from Maryland Bee Clubs and Beekeepers re: HB 208
House Environment & Transportation Committee**

January 29, 2021

Re: IN SUPPORT HB 208 Agriculture – Neonicotinoid Pesticides – Sales & Storage

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, Members of the Committee,

We, the undersigned, are beekeepers and beekeeping clubs in Maryland. We are writing to ask for your support in passing HB 208, which will amend the Pollinator Protection Act to correct a loophole that is being used to allow some stores to sell consumer garden products containing bee-killing neonicotinoid pesticides to unsuspecting consumers. The Pollinator Protection Act makes it illegal for consumers to use these products, so they are unknowingly breaking the law when they buy and use them.

- In 2016, with wide bipartisan support, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Pollinator Protection Act to protect bees, wildlife and our food supply by prohibiting unnecessary consumer use of the most toxic pesticide for bees, neonicotinoids. At the time, Maryland had some of the highest bee losses in the nation.
- The latest Bee Informed Partnership survey of bee colony losses, 2019-2020, found nationally that we had the second highest losses in history at 44%. Summer losses, when bees should thrive, are the highest losses to summer populations ever recorded at 32%.
- While this is happening, over 100 Restricted Use Pesticide retailers, including forty Target stores, are using unclear bill language as a loophole to sell these products to consumers.
- Dennis Howard, former pesticide regulation manager at Md. Dept. of Agriculture was clear about the law in a 2018 *Bay Journal* article saying "...the law's language can be a little confusing, but it does prohibit sales to the general public of neonicotinoid pesticides for outdoor use... They [neonics] should be behind the counter for the folks [certified applicators] who can actually apply it under the legislation."

Clearly, this is not a time for weakening laws that protect honeybees and wild pollinators.

Delegate Healey, the original sponsor of the Pollinator Protection Act, is sponsoring HB 208 to correct this loophole.

We ask you to pass HB 208 to amend the Pollinator Protection Act and close the loophole so the bill will be protective of bees and implemented as it was intended. These chemicals are deadly to bees and should be restricted to certified pesticide applicators only. Please save our bees by passing HB 208.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve McDaniel, McDaniel Honey Farm
mail@mcdanielhoneyfarm, 443-507-6367

on behalf of 225 Maryland Beekeepers,
Businesses/Apiaries and 8 Beekeeping Clubs
(listed next pages)

HB208 testimony signed by 225 Maryland beekeepers and 8 beekeeping clubs:

Name	Bee Clubs	Title	Email Address *	Phone Number
Steve McDaniel	Carroll County Beekeepers Association	Past President	mail@mcDanielhoneyfarm.com	(443) 507-6367
Ryan Smith	Anne Arundel Beekeepers Association	President	ryansmith@honeysmithbees.com	(443) 274-7496
Beth Sherring	Baltimore Backyard Beekeepers Network	Past President	bethsherring@gmail.com	410-215-5490
Christopher Hart	Central Maryland Beekeepers Association	President	president@centralmarylandbees.org	443-253-7510
Pam Hepp	Montgomery County Beekeepers Association	President	pphepp@aol.com	(202) 494-7934
Carla M Guarraia	Park School Beekeeping Club	Science Teacher and Club Mentor	cguarraia@parkschool.net	(1443) 413-5115
Michael Dashiell	South Cove Bee Club	Organizer	mikedash59@yahoo.com	(410) 812-5920
Mary Laura Fitzgerald	Upper Eastern Shore Beekeeping Association	President	themarylaura58@gmail.com	(301) 345-8171
Name	Apiaries, Businesses	Title	Email Address *	Phone Number
James Boicourt	Charm City Meadworks	Owner, Managing Partner	james@charmcitymeadworks.com	(410) 336-0459
Chris White	Bee-America	CEO	chris@3zs.us	(301) 229-2780
Bonnie Raindrop	Raindrop Apiary	Owner	legislate@centralMarylandbees.org	(410) 404-3808
Christina Glorioso Mullan	Monarchs Glen Apiary	Owner	monarchslen@gmail.com	(301) 758-3400
Gerald Lutskus	Gerald's Bees	Owner	gljcect@icloud.com	(301) 529-8262
Kathryn Koenig	Koenig Apiary	Owner	kaykoenig1@gmail.com	(1301) 641-4189
Eric Malcolm	Backyard Apiaries LLC	Owner	backyardapiaries@gmail.com	(240) 602-7835
Richard Schwinger	Schwinger Apiary	Operator	schwinger@yahoo.com	(410) 489-5216
Gina Rosso	Home Apiary	Beekeeper	ginarosso@me.com	(443) 695-2673
John H. Mountcastle	Mountcastle Apiary	Beekeeper	Mtcastle@yahoo.com	443-794-7805
Mark Burchick	Burchick's Bees	Owner	MJBurchick@gmail.com	
Tim Phillips	Phillips Apiary	Homeowner	tphil13@gmail.com	(410) 493-6901
Hope Underwood	Underwood Apiary	Beekeeper	HopeUnderwood@hotmail.com	832-366-3395
Dianne E. Dunlap	Dianne's Apiary	Homeowner	diannedunlap2@gmail.com	(443) 742-9121
Kim Malinowski	Kim's Bees	Owner	Kimbastores@gmail.com	
Katherine Kight	Kight Apiary	Owner	kekight@gmail.com	410-5966244
Kent Phillips	Phillips Apiary	Apiary Owner	Kent.a.phillips@gmail.com	410-993-2804
Rene Iannuzzi	Rene's Bees	Beekeeper	Rianutz@gmail.com	

Beekeeper Letter in Support of HB208

4

Mikalena Lawrence	Mika's Apiary	Owner	mikalawrence@hotmail.com	919.604.1160
Amy Boldt	Barefoot Medicine Farm	Owner	Barefootbohlife@gmail.com	
Richard Hill	Hill Apiary	Owner	richardhill2011@gmail.com	443-538-8998
Elizabeth Adkins	Pond View Apiary Jarrettsville	Owner	Lisamadkins@yahoo.com	(410) 382-8814
Andrea Langworthy	Banner Bee Co	Owner	Andrea@bannerbees.com	(240) 793-0363
Kathy Kadow	Kadow's Bees	Beekeeper	Kadow0420@AOL.com	410-292-7178
Bernie Kadow	Bernie's Bees	Beekeeper	kms214@aol.com	410-790-9270
Jp Boldt	Barefoot Medicine Farm	Co-Owner	jp.boldt@gmail.com	(202) 360-8642
Joanna Reed	Joanna's Bees	Beekeeper	jsreed99@gmail.com	443-487-1282
S. Weston Wolfe	Wolfe Apiary	Owner	s9wolfe@gmail.com	(443) 939-5545
Don Aker	Bizzy's Bees Apiary	Owner	Daker76259@verizon.net	(410) 371-5313
Ryan Smith	HoneySmith Bees	Owner	Ryansmith@honeysmithbees.com	(443) 274-7496
Kate Fisher	Bumbling Bee Apiary	Beekeeper	Katefisher13@gmail.com	
Joshua Cole	Cole Bee Company	Owner	Jcole57@live.com	(443) 974-8383
Mindy Dunnigan	M&M Apiary	Queen Beekeeper	mmdunni1281@gmail.com	(410) 876-2011
Kelly Brauning	Carroll Co Beekeepers Association	Beekeeper	Kelican89@gmail.com	443-289-1393
Olivia Canfield	Stoneberry Apiary	Owner	ocanfield@comcast.net	410-374-2375
Joanne Broccolino	Spring Lake Nature Bee Apiary	Owner	joannebroccolino@gmail.com	(443) 791-3363
Paul Alberti	Future bee hobbyist	Hobbyist	Plalberti@comcast.net	
Pam Hepp	Kenwood Park Apiary	Owner	pphepp@aol.com	(202) 494-7934
Rick Wallace	Wallace Apiary	Owner	Rickcapstan@yahoo.com	(443) 617-0182
Craig Teer	Teer Bees	Manager	craigbteer@aol.com	(240) 462-9008
Maureen Jais-Mick	Exfair Bees	Owner	jaismick1@verizon.net	
Sara Servin	Sara's Bees	Beekeeper in Training	saraservin@gmail.com	
William Hahn	Bill with a B	Owner	wjh22@georgetown.edu	(646) 835-9100
Harris Elizabeth	Montgomery County Beekeepers Association	Member	ekmharris@gmail.com	(301) 529-9319
Elizabeth Harris	Studios Bees	Owner	EHarrisResearch@gmail.com	(301) 652-1872
Frank Mccowan	Honey Bunnys Honey	Owner	Mrfikser@verizon.net	(240) 994-4573
John Crissey & Susan Vogel	Lily Bee Honey Apiary	Owners	svjbenovo@gmail.com	(301) 408-8546
Carla Dinowitz	Beemish Bee Apiary	Ms.	carladinowitz@gmail.com	(301) 802-7364
Harold Keiner	Keiner's Apiary	Owner	hkeiner@pa.metrocast.net	
Leon Vandenber	Farmer Lee Honey Co. LLC	President	farmerleebees@verizon.net	240-595-7957
Gail Ifshin	Gail's Bees	Owner	gailifshin@gmail.com	(240) 338-4274

Beekeeper Letter in Support of HB208

6

Vicki Rummel	Golden Girls Apiary	Owner	Goldengirlsapiry@gmail.com	410-925-9265
Edward Celarier	Dr. C's Bees	Owner	edward_celarier@gmail.com	(240) 620-3748
Dennis Wilson	Sparks Apiary	Owner	wilsondennis@aol.com	410-240-1180
Lisa Reichenbach	Central Maryland Beekeepers Association and owner of Hector's Hopyard Apiary	Beekeeper, Psychologist, Voter	Lisareichenbach@yahoo.com	410-829-9905
Stephen Vaughn	Flying Pig Farm	Owner	Kiwini1@yahoo.com	(1301) 578-6633
John Hebert	Woodsong Technologies	Owner	john.hebert@woodsongtechnologies.com	443-966-1539
Carl Miller	Susquehanna Beekeepers	Beekeeper	carimiller386@gmail.com	(410) 542-9628
Cynthia Friedel	CMBA	Member	cfriedel66@gmail.com	(410) 253-3473
Jennifer Beth Steeley	Beehaven 2	Owner	jenniferbeth60@gmail.com	(703) 946-0937
Erik Darm	Darm's Bee Farm	Owner	erik.darm@gmail.com	(240) 393-0686
Molly Moore	Association of Southern Maryland Beekeepers	Beekeeper	molly.moore@yahoo.com	
Tim Kaufman	Kaufman & Sons Apiary	Beekeeper	tsk680@yahoo.com	
Diane Wellons	Deeztownbeez.com	Owner	Deeztownbeez@gmail.com	(240) 925-1944
Ann Morrill	CMBA	Dr. / Beekeeper	Anncmorrill@gmail.com	(410) 963-8853
Diane Clark	Up on the Housetop Bees	Bee Encourager	fellowsdiane@gmail.com	(610) 334-5075
Michael Hurst	Lee Dee Bee Honey	Owner	mdhurst@gmail.com	301-980-4183
Ashleigh Knox	Hexed	Beekeeper	Hexedhoneyfarm@gmail.com	410-236-7419
Aron Megyeri	Central Maryland Bees	Beekeeper	amegyeri@gmail.com	
Erik Nachbahr	Erik's Apiary	Beekeeper	enachbahr@heliontechnologies.com	(44) 360-7640
Jennifer Hecner	Hecner Farms	Owner/Operator	jhecner@gmail.com	(410) 245-6893
Luke Seeger	Seeg's Bees	President	Lseeger1@gmail.com	(443) 604-4032
Jill Matthew	Willowbee Bee Farm	Owner	Jill.p.matthew@gmail.com	(518) 859-4776
Maureen Connors	Central Maryland Beekeeper Association	Beekeeper	maureen.connors@hotmail.com	(443) 472-7834
Marci Lefevre	Montgomery County Beekeeping Association	Beekeeper	marcikay@icloud.com	(301) 277-4152
Julie Lokula	Southeast Apiary	Beekeeper	Julie.lokula@gmail.com	646-642-7161
Brenda Klauenberg	Phunny Farm Apiary	Owner	bkshopsonline@icloud.com	(410) 507-2730
Christie Hash	Laughing Rabbit Apiary	Owner	chrishash13@gmail.com	(410) 692-5074
Therese Forbes	Honey Glow (Business)	President	therese@honey-glow.com	240-605-3189
Beth Wehrle	Beth's Bees	Owner	bethwehrle@gmail.com	202-262-0523
Stephanie Gold	Gold's Bees	Beekeeper	rubysmom10@verizon.net	

Kay Dambach	Beith's Bees	Owner		kaydambach@gmail.com	410-703-8651
Benjamin Batten	Fiddlers Green Farm LLC	Operating Manager		bjamin.batten@gmail.com	(410) 269-3866
Joy Goode	Goode's Apiary	Owner		joygoode@verizon.net	410-218-9949
Mary Laura Fitzgerald	Turner's Creek Bees	Owner		Marylaura@turnerscreekbees.com	(301) 345-8171
Wairren Klug	Goshen Farms Historic Society Apiary	Assistant Beekeeper		warrenklug21@yahoo.com	(781) 552-8759
Elizabeth Brown	Windy Hill Farm	Owner		davidandbethbrown@hotmail.com	(443) 244-5989
Shannon Snow	Snow's Baltimore Bees	Owner		shannon.e.snow@gmail.com	
Abigail Meckes	Home apiary	Beekeeper		abigail296@yahoo.com	
Kassie Shelter	Goshen Farm	Beekeeper		shelter098@yahoo.com	(240) 577-1670
Chris Gunther	Carroll County Beekeepers Association	Beekeeper		cgunther1@comcast.net	(1443) 340-8159
Jason Rubin	Susquehanna Beekeepers Association	Member, Former President		kabula46@verizon.net	410-978-1175
Lloyd Snyder	Snyder's Apiaries	Owner		SnydersApiaries@zoominternet.net	410-329-6671
Kassie Shelter	Goshen Farm	Beekeeper		shelter098@yahoo.com	240-577-1670
Christopher L White	Backyard Beekeeper	Beekeeper		christophenwhitefn@gmail.com	
Jill Matthew	Willowbee Bee Farm	Owner		Jill.p.matthew@gmail.com	(518) 859-4776
Dillon Hale	Dillon's Raw Honey	Owner		h3dillon@yahoo.com	(443) 618-3818
Nicole	Howard County Beekeeping Association	Beekeeper		nikia226@gmail.com	(570) 575-7035
Sara Shaeffer	Let it Bee Apiary	Beekeeper		Saralshaeffer@yahoo.com	(410) 218-7477
Brian Richmond	Stonesong Awareness & Nature Center	Maryland Beekeeper		Brlzmail4@gmail.com	
Karen Bassarab	Baltimore County	Beekeeper		Karenobanks@gmail.com	
Jim Miller	Jim's Best Bees	Owner		j.j.m113r67@gmail	
Mark Kubik	Bearded Bee Boys	Managing Partner		Mark@beardedbeeboys.com	(719) 351-6992
Susan Bitter	Stony Ups & Downs Apiary	Manager		dbitter228@gmail.com	(410) 952-1743
Matthew Poulos	Federal Hill Honey	Co-owner		Mpoulos38@gmail.com	(301) 717-2024
Jack Wilson	Sassafras Environmental Education Center	Volunteer Coordinator/Beekeeper		jackkennedywilson@gmail.com	(443) 480-8608
Mimi Bennett	Really Raw Honey Company	Founder			(913) 702-5323