



## **Opposed LD 1323**

### **‘An Act to Prohibit the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides in the Use and Sale of Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds’**

Senator Talbot-Ross, Representative Pluecker and members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee my name is Jesse O’Brien, I am from Portland. I am the spokesperson of the Ornamental Horticulture Council a state wide organization that represents horticulture interests from arborist, greenhouse, landscape, turfgrass and Christmas Trees. We are opposed to LD 1323 for the following.

- The 130 Legislature passed LD 155 a resolve directing the Board of Pesticide Control to prohibit the use of certain neonicotinoids in certain outdoor residential use (Chapter 33)
- The Board of Pesticide Control administers pesticide applicators training and licensing which includes IPM
- The Board of Pesticide Control housed in the ACF is the agency for pesticides in Agriculture and Horticulture matters, not the DEP

At the present time in Maine the Ornamental Horticulture is a living laboratory of not having all the tools available to help mitigate pests. Please follow up with us as to we deal with troublesome pest issues.

Thank you for your time.

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