

REPRESENTATIVES MALLORY - HAGAN - WINBURN - WILLIAMS, B.

*To urge the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency to grant an emergency exemption for the use of the insecticide Propoxur to control bedbugs in Ohio.*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio:*

*WHEREAS, Bedbugs are blood-feeding insects that infest all areas of homes, day-care centers, senior-care centers, hotels, and hospitals. The nocturnal insects are mostly associated with the bedroom where they emerge at night and bite inhabitants; and*

*WHEREAS, Since 2005, Ohio has seen an exponential increase in the number of bedbug infestations. Currently, Cincinnati is facing an epidemic bedbug infestation, and Columbus is dealing with an ever-growing population of these insects; and*

*WHEREAS, The pesticides that are currently being used to combat these pests are insufficient because the insects may be reduced for a short term after spraying, but the populations quickly rebound after the spraying cycles are completed; and*

*WHEREAS, As a result of the poor performance of the currently approved pesticides, many scientists and health officials are calling on the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency to approve the use of the insecticide Propoxur to control bedbugs. Research has shown that Propoxur will help permanently destroy bedbug populations that are currently uncontrollable; and*

*WHEREAS, Bedbugs are a threat to the quality of life for many through allergic reactions, severe emotional stress, and economic hardship. In addition, the bedbug infestation has the ability to severely impact Ohio's economy. As knowledge of these infestations spreads, people may hesitate to visit Ohio and patronize Ohio businesses; now therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency to grant an emergency exemption for the use of the insecticide Propoxur to control bedbugs in Ohio; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the news media of Ohio.*