

Thursday, March 16, 2017

I am a beekeeper in south-central Alaska and I urge you to support HB19 banning the use of Neonicotinoids in Alaska. I have inspected many honey bee hives in this area and have seen first hand how stress impacts bee colonies. Recent studies have shown loss of many species of bees in the lower 48. Even less is known about Alaska's native pollinators. Neonicotinoids are well documented to stress pollinators, adding to their vulnerability to bacteria, parasites and viruses. Many of our native pollinators such as bumblebees, nest and hibernate underground, making them susceptible to pesticide accumulation in the soil. I strongly support HB 19 and wish more states would follow our example.

Sincerely,

Scott Lawrence

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