

Proposed Ban on Chemical Agents Including Permethrin and Termidor

I am moving for a total ban on chemical agents like permethrin and Termidor because of false advertisements and claims that the product stays where it is sprayed or remains in the soil. The concern is that these chemicals can move beyond where they are sprayed and can enter homes even when they are applied outside. Exposure to these chemicals raises concerns about nerve damage, cancer, thyroid issues, reproductive issues, and other health problems.

These agents can act quickly and wreak havoc on a person's health following exposure. Like air, chemicals and pesticide residues may move through the environment and come into contact with porous items, surfaces, clothing, belongings, and areas inside a home. Unfortunately, some of these products are developed to remain effective for extended periods of time, meaning residues may remain in a person's environment long after the original application. Imagine what prolonged exposure can do to the human body. When a pesticide remains in an environment, the people living within that environment may continue to come into contact with residues. The length of time these chemicals remain in homes, belongings, soil, air, and other materials needs to be fully investigated and disclosed.

This is more serious than simply placing a label on the back of a pesticide bottle. These are chemical compounds whose purpose is to kill pests, and their effects on humans, animals, and the surrounding environment must be taken seriously. People deserve to know exactly what is being sprayed around them and what exposure may mean for their health. These products are often used without adequate warning or consent. They may be sprayed indoors and outdoors, applied around homes, and certain pesticides may also be fogged or dispersed into the air. People should have the right to know what is being placed into the environment where they live and breathe.

Our air should not sting. Our bodies should not be in pain. Our homes should be places of safety, and our health should be our number one priority.

Products capable of causing serious harm require strict accountability. Claims that these chemicals remain where they are sprayed must be supported by evidence showing what actually happens after application, including their movement through air, soil, dust, water, porous materials, and residential structures. The public deserves complete information about persistence, exposure, health effects, and how these chemicals behave under actual conditions, never false and unsubstantiated claims.

I am moving for a total ban on these products because people should never be unknowingly exposed to chemicals around their homes. The practice of fogging or otherwise dispersing pesticides into the environment also raises serious concerns about turning breathable air into chemical vapor that can cause painful or sickening exposure. Our air, homes, bodies, families, and communities deserve protection from chemical exposure that can cause severe and permanent harm.

War Research Note: It is important to note that this product may fall within the realm of chemical warfare when examined in the context of its deliberate use as a chemical agent against human beings. A chemical substance may function as a weapon when it is intentionally employed as a means of causing injury, incapacitation, suffering, intimidation, or coercion. Where exposure is deliberately forced or coercively imposed upon another person for such a purpose, the chemical agent is being employed as a weapon, regardless of its original commercial or agricultural purpose.