

Reauthorization of PRIA Still Pending

With a re-authorization by Congress needed every five years, the expiration of Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) on September 30, 2017 continues to hamper efforts to address new and emerging pest threats, reduces funding for pesticide worker training programs, and severely damage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ability to oversee and review the safety of products and evaluate potential impacts on the environment.

The intent of PRIA was to create an EPA funding mechanism that would support the pesticide registration process through maintenance and registration fees, as a supplement to the appropriations enacted by Congress. With its authorization lapsing, pesticide users will lose access to a predictable pipeline of new and innovative pest control solutions, because there will no longer be predictable review timeframes associated with pesticide product registration. This can delay the availability of key products, like those that protect against pests that pose a public health risk.

While the House of Representatives adopted the *Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act* (HR 1029) in March 2017, and it was reported by the Senate Agriculture Committee in June 2017, final action remains in the U.S. Senate. The AMCA joined a broad coalition of pest control professionals, public health officials, invasive species managers, pesticide registrants and others to urge prompt passage of HR 1029 to reauthorize PRIA. This important legislation also provides important funding for the establishment of efficacy test guidelines for significant public health pests such as mosquitoes. AMCA is working with other impacted stakeholders and Members of the U.S. Senate to ensure the efficient and thorough review of pesticide products.