



**American Mosquito Control
Association**
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Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Mosquito Experts Meeting In Austin, Texas Concerned Over Impact Of New Water Regulations On The Future Of Mosquito Control In The U.S.

Austin, TX— Nearly a thousand mosquito and vector control experts convening in the Texas state capitol this month are concerned that a recent court order mandating that mosquito control practices be now brought under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in addition to the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) historically governing these applications will have a chilling effect on vector control operations nationwide.

A primary focus will be on a piece of Legislation, HR 872, the “Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011”, which maintains the historic primacy of FIFRA jurisdiction and eliminates the duplicative regulation by CWA. The negative impacts that HR 872 seeks to redress are:

1. The only tangible result of new CWA requirements for vector control will be increased costs and burdens to strained state, county and municipal budgets – not cleaner water. Significant amounts of state and local funds and manpower are being diverted from directly protecting public health to CWA permitting activities that do not provide any additional environmental or human protection already afforded by FIFRA.
2. HR 872 avoids unnecessary and costly duplicative regulation while preserving the comprehensive environmental oversight provided by FIFRA.

According to Joe Conlon, Technical Advisor to the American Mosquito Control Association, “Ironically, the pollution incident leading to the court ruling that CWA-based regulation should also be imposed did not involve mosquito control and was a blatant violation of FIFRA, subject to substantial penalties. It wouldn’t have been prevented by the CWA.” Conlon further states, “Passage of H.R. 872 will restore the reasonable and practicable regulatory roles played by both FIFRA and the CWA, making both statutes conform with the original intent of Congress that has served successfully in protecting both our citizens and the environment for over 40 years.”

HR 872 was passed in the House by a 2/3 bipartisan vote and has a significant majority of the Senate poised to support its passage if brought to a floor vote. Unfortunately, Senator Barbara Boxer has put a hold on bill, keeping it from a floor vote. The attendees will be discussing ways to encourage Senate Majority Leader Reid bring the bill to a floor vote so that the will of the people can be heard on this critical issue.

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WHAT: *Live interview opportunities* with experts, scientists, and academics on insects, mosquito control, mosquito-borne disease, and containment strategies from throughout the United States.

WHEN: **February 27-March 1, 2012**

WHERE: *Interviews and visuals available*
Hilton Austin
500 East 4th Street, Austin, Texas, United States 78701
Tel: 1-512-482-8000

ABOUT AMCA:

The American Mosquito Control Association is an international, non-profit association of over 1,700 scientists and mosquito control professionals dedicated to enhancing health and quality of life through the suppression of mosquitoes and other vectors of public health importance.

AMCA Encourages You to Remember the 3 D's to Mosquito Prevention:

- DUMP and DRAIN: Eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed
- DUSK and DAWN: Stay indoors when mosquitoes are most active
- DEFEND: Prevent mosquito bites by wearing approved insect repellents