

December 16, 2022

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chair
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition
and Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition
and Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Scott
Chair
House Agriculture Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Glenn Thompson
Ranking Member
House Agriculture Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Stabenow, Ranking Member Boozman, Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Thompson

The undersigned organizations are writing to support the reauthorization of the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act in accordance with the attached legislative outline reached by a variety of diverse stakeholders, with technical assistance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In addition to providing critical resources for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Pesticide Programs, the bill includes an important incentive that will increase public health protections by incentivizing the development of new and innovative vector control products. We urge you to pass this legislation this year.

Approximately 80% of the world's population, including American citizens and troops abroad, are at risk of insect-borne diseases like malaria, dengue fever, Zika and West Nile viruses and chikungunya. Malaria alone, vectored by mosquitoes, kills more than 400,000 people a year in sub-Saharan Africa; mostly children under the age of 5. Globally, the burden of insect-borne disease reduces health security, labor productivity, gender equality, and access to education. It also increases poverty rates.

Effective vector control tools are the most efficacious and cost-effective approach to tackling these diseases. Unfortunately, the success of vector control is threatened by the development and spread of insecticide resistance. We must innovate novel insecticides faster than insect resistance develops to existing products and maintain progress towards disease eradication. However, there are only a limited number of vector control insecticides. New insecticide development can cost between \$100-\$250 million and take up to 12 years to go from discovery to market and impact. Manufacturers often do not invest in public health use insecticides for vector control due to a low

or no return on investment. The VERV program established in the legislation will incentivize insecticide development to control mosquitoes and the diseases that they vector.

VERV rewards the registrant of a new public health use insecticide with a voucher to receive an expedited EPA registration review of a second, more profitable product, with no sacrifices in safety. Getting this second chemistry to market faster allows the registrant the opportunity to generate a financial return to mitigate the developmental costs and potential losses on the first chemistry. Most importantly, the public health chemistry becomes a valuable component of the vector control toolbox for disease eradication.

VERV will increase US public health security, address the threat of insecticide resistance and ensure vector control remains a key tool in the fight against insect-borne diseases. Please pass the reauthorization of the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act this year.

Sincerely,

American Mosquito Control Association
BASF
BAYER CropScience
Disease Control Technologies
FMC
Global Health Technologies Coalition
Innovative Vector Control Consortium
National Pest Management Association
Syngenta
Vestergaard Sàrl

