



SPONSOR: Sen. Cloutier & Sen. Ennis
Sens. Hansen, Hocker, Lawson, Lockman, Pettyjohn,
Richardson, Sokola, Sturgeon, Townsend, Wilson; Reps.
Baumbach, Gray, Heffernan, Osienski, Seigfried,
Michael Smith

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

THE PETER LINDTNER MEMORIAL RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
TO SAVE THE BEES AND PROTECT POLLINATOR POPULATIONS COUNTRYWIDE.

1 WHEREAS, pollinators contribute more than 24 billion dollars to the United States economy annually, with 15
2 billion dollars coming from honeybees alone; and

3 WHEREAS, bee and other pollinator populations are integral to the global agricultural sector of the economy; and

4 WHEREAS, domestically managed honeybee populations dropped from approximately 6 million colonies in 1947
5 to roughly 2.5 million colonies in 2018; and

6 WHEREAS, declining pollinator populations are believed to be caused by a combination of stressors, such as
7 inadequate diets, natural habitat loss, diseases, loss of genetic diversity, and exposure to potentially harmful pesticides; and

8 WHEREAS Colony Collapse Disorder is also a major contributor to pollinator deaths and is believed to be caused
9 by pathogen and pesticide poisoning, as well as other environmental stressors; and

10 WHEREAS, bees used to pollinate food crops in the United States frequently come into contact with pesticides
11 and fungicides, some at lethal doses; and

12 WHEREAS, bees that contacted pollen contaminated with fungicides can end up three times more likely to be
13 infected with parasites closely associated with Colony Collapse Disorder; and

14 WHEREAS, many states have enacted legislation aimed at increasing public awareness of pollinator population
15 loss and implementing preventive measures to decrease the rate of pollinator deaths in the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, several federal agencies have created policies to further research the causes and detriments of bee and
17 other pollinator population losses; and

18 WHEREAS, little Congressional legislative action to address pollinator population loss has been attempted since
19 2015; and

20 WHEREAS, preventing harm to pollinators and promoting pollinator health are argued to be the best methods to
21 prevent bee and other pollinator populations from reaching near-extinction levels in the near future.

22 NOW, THEREFORE:

23 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the 150th General Assembly call upon the Congress of the United States to
24 take action to protect pollinator populations by passing legislation to increase federal research regarding factors that may be
25 detrimental to pollinator health and to raise public awareness of pollinator population losses, the global effects of pollinator
26 deaths, and how to prevent further pollinator population loss and consequent environmental and economic degradation.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the
28 presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives, as well as each Congressional member from the State of
29 Delaware.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution calls on the Congress of the United States to take action to protect bee and other pollinator populations across the United States, which have halved since the 1940s, by researching the causes of pollinator population losses and determining methods to retain and ultimately increase the number of bees and other pollinators throughout the United States and around the world.

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