

Media Coverage Related to Rodents Relevant to AB 1788 (Bloom)

Increased infestations of rodents that can carry diseases like the plague and typhus which can be transferred to humans are on the rise. Unfortunately, AB 1788 would limit the ability of pest control operators to use the most effective tools to control rodent colonies around apartment buildings, restaurants, grocery stores and other homes and businesses throughout the state. In the middle of the greatest public health crisis in recent times, the Legislature should be focused on further protecting public health, not putting residents at greater risk.

SoCal Residents Seeing More Rodent Infestations Due to Pandemic

"It seems like with the closure of a lot of restaurants — and just businesses in general — that the rodents are looking for new places to go," Goldfarb said. Much like us, she said the pandemic has also turned their world upside-down, forcing them to find new sources of food and shelter. *"They're going to be bolder. They're going to be more aggressive.* They're going to be more willing to go into your living area, as opposed to before when they could just go out and do what they wanted to do."

<https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/la-west/inside-the-issues/2020/08/06/socal-residents-seeing-more-rodent-infestations-due-to-pandemic>

Rats come out of hiding as lockdowns eliminate urban trash

"As human beings around the world change their daily behavior to try to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, our absence is causing ripple effects in the urban ecosystem. **Among the most noticeable changes: Rats are coming out of hiding. They're taking to the streets in broad daylight and invading homes in a desperate search for food.**

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/2020/03/urban-rats-search-for-food-coronavirus/>

California sees resurgence of 'medieval diseases'

California Governor Gavin Newsom [said](#) in his State of the State speech in February 2019, *"Our homeless crisis is increasingly becoming a public-health crisis," citing outbreaks of hepatitis A in San Diego county, syphilis in Sonoma county, and typhus in Los Angeles county.* He added in unbelief, "Typhus ... a medieval disease. In California. In 2019."

<https://asiatimes.com/2020/02/california-sees-resurgence-of-medieval-diseases/>

Rat invasion? SoCal pest control company sees jump in service calls amid coronavirus pandemic

Amid the coronavirus pandemic, *Southern California homes may be experiencing a dramatic jump in rat infestations,* according to pest control companies.

<https://abc7.com/rat-problem-southern-california-coronavirus-invasion/6369684/>

CDC issues 'aggressive' rat warning

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has *issued a warning that rodent populations are increasing in the US as rats search for sources of food* other than restaurant dumpsters, which for the large part remain bare *due to closures during the pandemic,* CNN reports.

<https://www.kron4.com/news/national/cdc-issues-aggressive-rat-warning/>

Battling rats at the CalEPA headquarters: poison, traps and hourly patrols

"When those measures did not solve the problem, *we consulted experts and determined that protecting the children from rodent-borne diseases required the additional step of applying a rodenticide* with strict safety procedures to protect human health and other wildlife."

<https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/the-state-worker/article232573992.html>

The Most Rat Infested Cities of 2019

#2 – Los Angeles, #5 – San Francisco

<https://www.californiancitynews.org/2019/10/most-rat-infested-cities-2019.html>

Is a plague of rats following the coronavirus?

Experts warn that the long-term effects of starvation on these survivalist creatures could mean *an increase in aggressive behavior and household break-ins.*

<https://thehill.com/changing-america/sustainability/infrastructure/491421-is-a-plague-of-rats-following-the-coronavirus>

'A peak of disaster': 29 Palms Art Gallery Struggles with Financial Fallout of COVID-19, Rats

<https://www.desertsun.com/story/life/2020/07/24/29-palms-art-gallery-struggles-financial-fallout-covid-19-rats/5369006002/>

Research Paper: A California without Rodenticides: Challenges for Commercial Rodent Management in the Future

<https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1546&context=hwi>

LA City Hall Has a Rodent Problem. Downtown Has a Typhus Outbreak. Here Are the Facts

<https://laist.com/2019/02/12/rats-infestation-at-la-city-hall-typhus-outbreak-downtown.php>

Coronavirus: Why More Rats Are Being Spotted during Quarantine

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-52177587>

Bubonic Plague Warning Issued in Lake Tahoe

<https://www.nbc12.com/2020/09/05/bubonic-plague-warning-issued-lake-tahoe/>

Amgen Wiggles Out of State Bill on Rat Poisons, Says It Prefers Its Rodent-Killing Methods

<https://www.fiercepharma.com/pharma/amgen-wiggles-out-state-bill-rat-poisons-says-it-prefers-its-rodent-killing-methods>

Hong Kong Officials Report Rat Hepatitis E Virus Infection

<http://outbreaknewstoday.com/hong-kong-officials-report-rat-hepatitis-e-virus-infection-95122/>