

**Re: Opposition to Bill S6182-a & A08431, "Relates to bee health and the beekeeping industry".**

Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo

LOB Rm 828

Albany, NY 12248

518-455-5431

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Dear Assemblywoman Lupardo,

I am a beekeeper and I strongly request that you table Bill A08431 until 2021

This bill has never been discussed, announced, or open for comment to New York beekeepers prior to introduction to the NYS Legislature. Until improved channels of communication are established with the beekeepers of NYS by NYS Agriculture and Markets, this bill should not move forward.

In 2007 there was a similar scenario, where legislation was quietly slipped into the legislature at the end of the NYS legislative session without the knowledge of most beekeepers. The Bill was enacted as law, but a major effort by NYS beekeepers was undertaken to successfully repeal the law in 2010. A similar scenario played out in June 2018 for Bill S8274/A10362, with the exception of the bill being withdrawn by Assemblyman Magee because of the overwhelming opposition from beekeepers throughout NYS.

Albany needs to provide notification and communication now for the beekeepers already registered for: county spraying for mosquitos, use of bee toxic substances for tick abatement, outbreaks of honey bee disease such as American Foulbrood, before making promises of future notification and requiring mandatory registration.

Please stop the passage of this bill and table Bill A10362.

Sincerely,