

Minister of Health



Ministre de la Santé

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K9

The Honourable Senator Robert Black  
Chair, Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry  
The Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada, K1A 0A4

Dear Senator Black,

I wish to thank the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry (AGFO) for its work in studying the subject matter of Bill S-6, *An Act respecting regulatory modernization*, lead by Minister Fortier, President of the Treasury Board. The Annual Regulatory Modernization Bill is an essential tool for the Government of Canada to improve the regulatory system, including encouraging the development of new products, making cross-border trade easier, addressing complicated, inconsistent, or outdated requirements, and controlling the administrative burden on businesses.

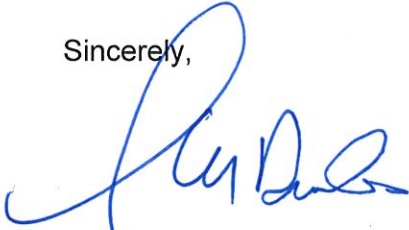
Part 6 of this bill contains Amendments to the *Pest Control Products Act* (PCPA). These Amendments have the goal of enabling more efficient authorization of pest control products of low risk and increasing post-market oversight. I support this goal.

In 2021, our Government promised results for Canadians by modernizing and strengthening the *Pest Control Products Act* to ensure it supports transparency, use of independent scientific evidence and input to the decision-making process. To fulfill these objectives, Health Canada started extensive public consultations on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, including engagement with Indigenous communities, partners and other stakeholders, on ways the Government of Canada can increase transparency and strengthen human health and environmental protection when reviewing pesticides.

Given this ongoing process, the Government supports the removal of Part 6 from Bill S-6 at this time, and will be supporting an amendment to have it removed when the bill proceeds to clause-by-clause consideration. Removing this proposal from Bill S-6 and integrating the proposed amendments into Health Canada's ongoing targeted review of the PCPA will ensure a more cohesive approach to identifying potential legislative amendments as part of Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency Transformation Agenda.

We will continue to develop strong, efficient, science based policy for Canadians and I look forward to continuing to work with AGFO in the pursuit of a strengthened PCPA to better protect human health, wildlife, and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jean-Yves Duclos', written in a cursive style.

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Health

CC:

The Honourable Mona Fortier, P.C., M.P., President of the Treasury Board

The Honourable Senator Marc Gold, P.C., Government Representative in the Senate

The Honourable Senator Yuen Pau Woo, Senate Sponsor, Bill S-6