



Andrew Gottlieb  
Executive Director

July 1, 2022

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The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz, Chair  
House Committee on Ways and Means  
State House  
Boston, MA 02133

**RE: Support H.4603, An Act to Protect Pollinator Habitat**

Dear Chair Michlewitz:

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) writes its strong support of H.4603, an Act to Protect Pollinator Habitat, and respectfully urges the House Committee on Ways and Means to move this bill to the floor for a vote.

Founded in 1968, APCC is the Cape region's leading nonprofit environmental advocacy and education organization, working for the adoption of laws, policies and programs that protect, preserve, and restore Cape Cod's natural resources. APCC focuses our efforts on the protection of groundwater, surface water, wetland resources, preservation of open space, the promotion of responsible planned growth and the achievement of an environmental ethic.

H.4603 would establish a commission to study opportunities for improving pollinator health across the Commonwealth by increasing and enhancing native habitat. This bill would also permit examination of many issues relevant to pollinator health, including current laws and regulations, funding, best management practices, and the use of public lands to enhance pollinator habitat.

The loss of pollinators and other beneficial insect species here in Massachusetts and across the nation is of great concern. Pollinators are essential for the security of our food supply and the health and resiliency of our natural ecosystems. In Massachusetts, over 45 percent of the agricultural commodities produced rely on pollinators. Habitat loss is a leading cause of pollinator declines, along with pesticide use and climate change. H.4603 would be a major step forward in more effectively



addressing these challenges faced by our pollinator species.

We hope you will support this important legislation and move it forward for a vote by the full House.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Andrew Gottlieb  
Executive Director

cc:           Rep. Sarah Peake  
              Rep. Timothy Whelan  
              Rep. Kip Diggs  
              Rep. David Vieira  
              Rep. Dylan Fernandes  
              Rep. Steven Xiarhos

