

Resolution No. 8

Date: 5/20/2011

City: Washington, DC

NAHB Resolution

Title: Bed Bugs
Sponsor: Multifamily Council Board of Trustees
Submitted by: Michael Tobin

WHEREAS, a nearly forgotten household pest, the common bed bug has re-emerged to headlines around the country;

WHEREAS, despite their name, the pest doesn't confine itself to beds, or even to residences;

WHEREAS, the bug has been found to infest all property types from offices and theaters to department stores and schools;

WHEREAS, the pest was largely eliminated in the United States when the pesticide DDT was used freely;

WHEREAS, unfortunately, DDT was found to also have toxic effects on a variety of animals, including humans, and was banned by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1972;

WHEREAS, apartment owners and managers are vigilantly monitoring for bed bugs, but are limited in their ability to address infestations because there are currently no pesticides that effectively treat infestations;

WHEREAS, scientists at a Congressional Bed Bug Forum held in 2010 explained that it takes roughly 10 years and \$200 million in research and testing to bring a new chemical to market; and

WHEREAS, the private market is not likely to develop a new pesticide in the near future,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association of Home Builders support efforts to expedite testing of existing pesticide products and the development of new pesticides for their safety and efficacy in treating bed bugs.

Board of Directors Action:	APPROVED
Executive Board Action:	Recommends Approval
Resolutions Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Federal Government Affairs Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Environmental Issues Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Multifamily Council Board of Trustees Action:	Recommends Approval