

Pesticide Registration Improvement Act 6

PRIA Coalition Reauthorization Proposal

Reauthorization Timeline

- FY 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033
- Effective date: If passed before 10/1/26 than effective is the start of the new fiscal year including the fee charts. If passed after the start of the fiscal year, fee charts take effect 60 days after passage, all other provisions effective immediately.

Agency Resources

Registration Fees

- Maintain the current small business waiver criteria.
- Address some fees that are not consistent with the level of review time needed.
- Allow self-certification for small business fee waivers.

Maintenance Fees

- Increase maintenance fees to \$50 million per year, but the fees will revert to \$43.5 million per year in 2031 and subsequent years if EPA does not meet the metrics outlined below.
- Adjust the caps to and per product fees as follows to address the increase.

Category	PRIA5: \$42M	PRIA6: \$50M IT+ Process Improvements
Large company <50 products	\$172,200	\$204,918 (\$32,718)
Large company 50+ products	\$277,200	\$329,868 (\$52,668)
Small company <50 products	\$105,000	\$124,950 (\$19,950)
Small company 50+ products	\$184,000	\$218,960 (\$34,960)
Per Product Fee	\$4,875	\$6,968 (\$2093)

- If EPA does not meet the criteria to maintain the \$50 million in maintenance fees by 2030, and maintenance fees revert to \$43.5 million, then the caps will be adjusted as follows:

Category	PRIA 6 through 2030: \$50 Million	PRIA6 from 2031-2033: \$43.5M
Large company <50 products	\$204,918	\$178,350 (-\$26,568)
Large company 50+ products	\$329,868	\$287,100 (-\$42,768)
Small company <50 products	\$124,950	\$108,750 (-\$16,200)
Small company 50+ products	\$218,960	\$190,571 (-\$28,389)
Per Product Fee	\$6,968	\$5,130 (-\$1,838)

- Provide an additional \$8 M to EPA through maintenance fees for specific set asides with clear metrics. If EPA fails to meet the following metrics, then maintenance fees will revert to \$43.5 million:
 - Publish the result of an Independent 3rd party audit by July 1, 2030; and
 - Within 1 year, EPA shall develop and publish, with stakeholder input, Data Evaluation Record (DER) templates/models and instructions for reviewing studies and completing DERs for all guideline acute toxicity, product chemistry, and efficacy studies in each registering division;
 - Provide guidance on standardization and use of PRIA pre-submission meetings and make sure pre-submissions discussions are recorded;
 - Published digital labeling model(s) for public review and comment;
 - Make significant progress towards the elimination of the non-PRIA backlog, including completion of all non-PRIA actions that were submitted more than 3 months before the audit; and
 - Achieve an overall on-time completion rate from 60% by 2030 (and maintain it in subsequent years) in a manner that does not disproportionately prioritize lower-complexity PRIA categories in the calculation.
- Modifications to Maintenance Fee Payments and Processing
 - Require that annual maintenance fee payment information be issued no earlier than November 1 and no later than December 1 of each year and that the maintenance fees are due 60 days from the invoice date. Remove the current January 15 statutory due date for maintenance fee payment.
 - Registrants with maintenance fee payments past due and/or not challenged by 60 days after the due date (120 days from publication of fees) will have all pending non-PRIA actions, including amendments and notifications, withdrawn. The normal cancellation process for non-payment of maintenance fees will continue. Late maintenance fees (outstanding more than 60 days from due date) will be assessed an interest charge and late penalty fee.
 - Add a provision in PRIA 6 that the maintenance fee process, and required information from the registrant, needs to be automated to the maximum extent practicable.
- Annual Set Asides
 - Maintain the following set asides:
 - 1/8 of maintenance fees for processing registrant submissions not covered by a PRIA code and to help clear the current backlog.
 - Up to \$500,000 set aside for EPA staff education and training to be conducted cooperatively through land grant institutions in partnership with HBCUs, 1890 institutions, or other minority-serving institutions.
 - Up to \$500,000 for education and training of clinicians.
 - An average of \$1,500,000 per year for worker protection activities.
 - Up to \$500,000 for the Pesticide Education Safety Program.
 - Up to \$500,000 per year for Partnership Grants.

- Up to \$350,000 set aside for grant writing technical assistance
- Up to \$500,000 for the continued development of public health pathogen efficacy methods for antimicrobial devices.
- Modify the following set asides:
 - \$1,000,000 per year for Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) inspections. Direct EPA to implement the MOU with FDA on GLP inspection to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate with the OECD program (*\$500,000 increase from PRIA 5*)
 - \$100,000 set aside for Vector Expedited Review Voucher (VERV) to incentivize development of new insect disease vector control methods, with any unused funds returning to general maintenance fee fund. Modify the program to allow the voucher to be redeemed for 20% of the timeframe any actions, not just certain R codes. (*decrease from \$500,000 in PRIA 5*)
- New set asides:
 - At least \$8 million annually (2027-2030) for process improvements and processing technology. If metrics outlined above are achieved, this set aside shall be maintained in 2031-2033, provided EPA maintains a 60% overall on-time completion rate each year in a manner that does not disproportionately prioritize lower-complexity PRIA categories in the calculation:
 - Technology improvements, including updates to EPA systems and databases supporting pesticide registration including InertFinder, appropriate integration of automation and artificial intelligence, and development of digital labeling frameworks and technology.
 - Process improvements to improve the review of PRIA and non-coded PRIA actions, including development and publication of data evaluation record (DER) templates and instructions and guidance and standards for pre-submission meetings and application of outcomes.
 - Funding from this set aside that is not used for technology and process improvements must be utilized for completion of non-coded PRIA actions and PRIA actions, with a focus on eliminating the backlog of pending actions.
 - Up to \$300,000 per year for EPA staff to attend multi-lateral forums to include but not limited to Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm Convention, and OECD.
 - Up to \$500,000 per year to develop 1) efficacy guidance for minimum risk pesticides; 2) label guidance; and 3) inert ingredient guidance. The guidance shall be developed in consultation with industry and state pesticide regulatory agencies.

- Eliminate the following set asides:
 - \$500,000 set aside to support the interagency agreement between EPA and CDC/ NIOSH related to the SENSOR Pesticide Program.

Federal Appropriations

- Maintain the PRIA minimum appropriations requirement of \$166 million per year to reflect an appropriate share of federal appropriations.

Independent Assessments/Annual Report

Independent Assessment (Third-party Audit)

- EPA shall continue to implement all appropriate recommendations of the *Business Processes Review and Optimization for EPA Office of Pesticides Programs FINAL REPORT* dated September 30th, 2025 (independent process assessment required under PRIA 5).
- EPA shall issue a competitive bid for an independent a third-party audit of the Agency's processes and performance and to make recommended process improvements. The audit shall commence no later than January 31, 2029, and be completed and submitted to Congress no later than July 1, 2030. The audit must address at a minimum:
 - The progress in implementing the recommendations of the September 30, 2025 assessment and the workforce assessment, *Business Processes Review and Optimization for EPA Office of Pesticides Programs FINAL REPORT*, dated September 30th, 2025
 - Performance, processes, and progress towards meeting PRIA deadlines including any bottlenecks in workflow, eliminating the backlog and preventing future backlogs of overdue PRIA actions;
 - Performance, processes, and progress towards meeting deadlines for registrant submissions not covered by a PRIA code (non-PRIA actions) including any bottlenecks in workflow, eliminating the backlog and preventing future backlogs non-PRIA actions;
 - Information technology systems;
 - Recommended improvements to employee training; and
 - Performance, progress, and processes in completing registration review.
 - The audit must also determine whether EPA has implemented, delivered, or met the following:
 - EPA has deployed and published data evaluation record (DER) templates and instructions, implemented the use of artificial intelligence and automation to reduce registration backlogs; developed guidance and incorporated outcomes of pre-submission meetings into its reviews, and published digital labeling model(s) for public review and comment.
 - EPA has made significant progress towards the elimination of the non-PRIA backlog, including completion of all non-PRIA actions that were submitted more than 3 months before the audit.
 - EPA has made significant progress toward meeting PRIA registration timelines, including achieving an overall on-time completion rate from 60%

by 2030 in a manner that does not does not disproportionately prioritize lower-complexity PRIA categories in the calculation.

- Should the above metrics not be met, as determined by the audit, maintenance fees will revert to \$43.5 million for the calendar year 2031 and the technology/process efficiency specific set aside will sunset.
- To maintain the set aside in 2032 and 2033, EPA must continue to achieve an overall on-time completion rate of 60% by 2030 in a manner that does not does not disproportionately prioritize lower-complexity PRIA categories in the calculation.

Annual Report

- Further streamline the current metrics required in the Annual Report to focus on those that provide insights into processing efficiencies and timelines, add new metrics related to GLP inspections, science review timelines, the use of new approach methods and small business fee waivers.

Maintain/Update PRIA 5 Language

- Maintain PRIA 5 Bilingual labeling provisions.
- Continue the PRIA 5 provision that specifies that fee-based activities shall continue in the event of a government shutdown.
- Add a provision that directs EPA to develop a framework and integrate the use of artificial intelligence and automation into its reviews and registration processes along with systems where appropriate.

New Process Improvements

DERs and Study Summary Use and Development

- Within one year of enactment, EPA shall implement approaches to the efficient development of Data Evaluation Records (DERs), study summaries, and predictive analyses for consideration in regulatory decision making. This should include the publication on DER templates/models and detailed instructions for guideline studies, Agency use of artificial intelligence to populate DERs prior to their review, and working with registrants on the voluntary development of DERs. EPA shall utilize registrant submitted DERs, if they are complete and in accordance with EPA guidelines.

Digital Labels

- Within 12 months after the date of enactment. the Administrator shall:
 - Establish a digital labeling pilot program to develop, submit, review, and approve digital pesticide labeling. The pilot program shall include state regulatory agencies and a range of registrants encompassing a mix of agricultural, non-agricultural, biopesticide, and antimicrobial labels.

- Publish guidance for stakeholder input defining the non-pesticidal elements that do not require review as part of the master label but may appear on the final printed label.
- Within 12 months of the completion of the digital labeling pilot program, the Administrator shall:
 - publish the results from the pilot program;
 - one or more draft data models for digital pesticide master labels for stakeholder input; and
 - a governance and implementation plan for mandatory digital labeling.
- Within 24 months after the conclusion of the digital labeling pilot program, the Administrator shall:
 - complete digitization of existing pesticide master labels and provide those individual digitized labels to the respective registrants;
 - establish a process to track the accuracy of digitization;
 - accept and incorporate feedback on the draft data model; and
 - establish a method and timeline for review of individual digital labels by the registrants before they are adopted by EPA.
- Within 12 months after the existing pesticide labels are digitized, the Administrator:
 - shall publish the results of the master label digitization; a revised data model for pesticide master labels;
 - a final governance and maintenance plan;
 - a digital labeling builder tool for registrants; and
 - a proposed phased implementation plan to require the digital submission and review of pesticide labels, for public comment.

Screening

- Within 1 year of enactment, EPA shall automate, to the maximum extent practicable, the initial 21-day content screen.
- During the initial 21-day content screen (whether automated or not), registrants with deficient packages shall be given 10 business days to correct the error or challenge. The 21-day clock will pause during the 10-day correction period. If the error is not resolved, or an alternate timeframe for resolution is agreed to in writing, within 10 days, the package is rejected and EPA retains 25% of the PRIA fee. *(No change to current law).*
- During the 45-day or 90-day technical screen registrants will be given 10 business days to correct any identified errors or challenge. If the error is not resolved or an alternate timeframe for resolution is agreed to in writing, within 10 business days, the package is rejected and EPA retains 30% of the PRIA fee. *(Note: current statute for the initial 21-day content screen is 10 days, not 10 business days).*
- Within one year of enactment, EPA will appoint a staff (GS-14 or directly reporting to the Director of OPP) to act as a mediator/facilitator who will resolve process inconsistencies, and address registrant concerns/challenges.

Endangered Species Act

- Within one year of enactment, EPA shall issue for public comment any new Biological Evaluation models and methodologies employed by the Agency since 2022 related to registration or registration review of new conventional and new biopesticide active ingredients.
- Within 2 years of enactment, EPA shall establish a process to accept registrant submitted analyses supporting a Biological Evaluation using EPA's published methodologies and models.

Precision Application and Modern Technology

- EPA will explore and implement developing label language and risk assessment refinements for new and modern advances in application equipment, including but limited to uncrewed aerial spray systems and targeted spray systems. Within 2 years of enactment, EPA will include in the annual report the progress of this work.

PRIA Codes

- Reduce the 226 current PRIA fee codes to 83 to save resources and reduce instances of miscoding.
- Continue to incentivize the development of biological, reduced risk, minimum risk products through lower fees and/or review timeframes.
- Separate true identical/100% repack products and substantially similar into two distinct PRIA codes.