

Katharine EE Hunt
130 Hansen Lane
Eugene, OR 97404

Ms. Beth Patrino

Committee Administrator

House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Oregon State Legislature

900 Court Street NE, Room 347

Salem, Oregon 97301

April 3, 2013

Re: HB 3364, Relating to integrated pest management.

Dear Chair Witt and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning House Bill 3364, the plan for agency coordination for Oregon's State IPM policy.

I believe that passing HB 3364 is good because it will help the different departments and agencies work together to take care of pests sensibly by using Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

My husband and I are local beekeepers. We have had as few as one hive and as many as 150 bee hives since living in Oregon. We have been a commercial beekeeping operation selling honey at the Lane County Farmers Market and we have also been backyard hobbists only producing honey for ourselves and our family.

Previous to moving to Eugene we were commercial beekeepers in northern Canada. Between the two of us we have a cumulative experience of 70 years working with bees.

Presently I am president of the Lane County Beekeepers Association and my husband Chuck was president a number of years ago. We both help with the annual Lane County

Beekeepers Association Bee School. Chuck has taught at the bee school for the past 15 years.

We urge the passage of HB 3364 in order to reduce the pesticide load in the environment in our community. Reducing the pesticide use is good for our bees and for pollinating insects generally. Bees and other pollinating insects are absolutely critical to agriculture and food production.

Respectfully submitted,

Katharine EE Hunt

resident of Eugene, OR