

For the record.

I would like to thank Representative Bailey for the time, thought, and effort he has invested on the bedbug issue. There is no doubt that these blood-sucking pests have raised havoc with citizens in The State of Oregon for the last five or six years in large numbers. Our firm, Sprague Pest Solutions has been in business for 88 years and our grandfather dealt regularly with these pests during the Great Depression

And our father continued to implement control measures for bedbug control upon returning from World War II as a Coast Guard Pilot. Eventually this insect population was controlled with products and materials at their disposal that are no longer approved by the EPA due to adverse exposure data that we have today. Now we are getting a better handle on the bedbug population with amazing results.

I am now opposed to this bill in this format for the following reasons:

1. Today we have a very highly trained workforce with a well respected technical team who have post-Grad science degrees that keep us updated on the newest techniques and application methods to control these bedbugs.
2. We have a number of canines and their handlers who are able to detect and help destroy these pest populations in very short order.
3. Our Pest Management Industry has successfully introduce treating for bedbugs with Heat that has completely revolutionized treatment strategy with amazing effectiveness for bedbug control.
4. New innovative materials come on the market on a regular basis that are Not formulated by chemical companies, but rather by pharmaceutical firms that specialize in life science materials used by physicians
5. Our firm has personnel throughout the State of Oregon from Portland, Salem, Corvallis, Eugene, Medford, Coos Bay, Bend, and Pendleton who deal very well with control of these bedbugs. How will another license category better protect the citizens of Oregon? It will Not!
6. Today I AM LICENSED IN EIGHT STATES and the need for another examination is of No Value to the citizens of Oregon.
7. I passed my first Pest Control Exam in 1969 when I was attending the University of Washington and I have been working full time in this Industry since April 1, 1971 upon graduation 43 years ago.
8. What additional burden will this place on the Oregon Department of Agriculture to write, develop, and administer another exam?
9. What cost will be associated with this proposed exam and are there dollars appropriated from the Legislature to administer this law or is it another Unfunded Mandate ?
10. If Representative Bailey or anyone else from the State Legislative Body sees a need or has some ideas on how the Citizens of Oregon can better be served we offer an open invitation to meet with the Oregon Pest Control Association to discuss these issues and reason together about viable improvements or alternatives to serve our clients in Oregon.

If you have any further questions in this matter please do not hesitate to call me at 253-272-4400.
Respectfully,

Larry Treleven
Vice President Sprague Pest Solutions