

**From:** Rickard, Kathryn [<mailto:kathyrn.rickard@email.socc.edu>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 25, 2015 9:24 AM

**To:** Gallagher Chuck; Rep Witt; Rep Clem

**Subject:** Bill's on aerial herbicidal sprays

Dear Chuck Gallaher, Representative Brad Witt, and Representative Brian Clem,

I am a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation logger's daughter so I do understand the logging issue, I have lived it, and I know how important it is to our state. It is what put food on my plate, a roof over my head, and clothes on my back. I am very disappointed that several bills are being presented that do not help a very important issue in anyway, other than to distract and cloud the issues that need to be truly addressed. Specifically bills, HB3428, HB3429, HB3434, and HB3430.

According to the US EPA Comparison report Oregon is listed as having the weakest laws in the Northwest in the protection of our water, homes, and schools. SB613 is what would bring Oregon at least even with its sister states and is the minimum that should be done in the protection of your citizens and waterways.

Why would we want to have this distinction as being the weakest? Why would we not want to protect the citizens of this great state? SB613 is the minimum that we need in our great state and I find it appalling that a tree is considered above human health. I assure you, I do understand the timber industry and I do want it to thrive, but not at the expense of peoples health.

As you have heard and read from the media and people who have been impacted by aerial herbicidal spraying, the problems associated with it are on the rise. In the past two years alone we have had numerous counties effected with injuries to the health and welfare of your constituents, their livestock, pets, children, and drinking water. I am one who has been directly impacted in an aerial herbicidal spray incident in Curry County. I have lost my pet, my husband and I have suffered health issues, and we have damage to our property due directly to a spray of these toxic chemicals. I find these bills a slap in the face of your constituents who have already suffered and the ones who will by not supporting bill SB613.

This bill is morally and ethically the right thing to do for the citizens of Oregon.

Who would not want:

Buffer zones for clean water, homes, and schools

Greater accountability

Free notifications so that people are able to protect themselves by going indoors or leaving their homes. Especially the children, elderly, sick, and pets.

Accurate record keeping so when incidences occur the people are able to receive the information quickly.

The OHA to have the ability to investigate and treat people who have been impacted.

Timely investigations into a purported spray incident.

We know you will do the morally and ethically right thing by supporting SB613 for the safety of your constituents.

Sincerely,

Kathyrn and Eric Rickard