

Smith Holly

From: Nate Hildebrand <nate@innategraphix.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:52 AM
To: rep.kenhelm@state.or.us; Rep.MarkJohnson@state.or.us; Rep Power;
Rep.PhilBarnhart@state.or.us; Rep.CliffBentz@state.or.us;
Rep.DeborahBoone@state.or.us; Rep Holvey; Rep Reschke; Rep Smith D
Cc: HEE Exhibits
Subject: Please support the passage of HB 2669

Dear Chair Helm and Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee,

Please support the passage of HB 2669, the Toxics Reporting Bill and Community Right to Know program. Exposure to toxics chemicals in air, land and water can damage human health and the environment. Toxics Right to Know serves to daylight toxic emissions to air, water and waste streams for better community health.

The Community toxics reports can be used by the general public as well as environmental justice community members in the most impacted communities. If Portland had such a toxics reporting program, it would never have taken so long for the DEQ to “discover” where the heavy metals were coming from. Without any kind of tracking and reporting system in place, the polluting businesses kept pointing fingers at other manufacturers, knowing that the DEQ had little data to prove or disprove their claims. Businesses already track this kind of information for the reports they prepare for the US EPA and the State Fire Marshall (although these reports lack detailed information that is useful to a community) . It is not a stretch for businesses to supply this information to the local Fire Marshall’s office. A toxics reporting program, based on materials balancing, will provide accurate data that will help regulators and communities know and reduce the toxics in our air and water.

In summary, HB 2669 supports citizens’ fundamental right to know the identity and amounts of toxic chemicals that are released into the workplaces, air, water, soil, and environment of their community.

Thank you,

Nate Hildebrand, NE Portland Resident