



Home of Aunt Patty's & GloryBee Products

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Contact: RaeJean Wilson, Senior Executive Vice President
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RE: SB929 Written Testimony

Dear Chair Dembrow and members of the Senate Committee for Environment and Natural Resources,

Glory Bee is a family-owned business with a foundation consisting of a belief in God and educating people about healthy living. We strive to have the highest possible ethical and moral standards for ourselves and towards our customers. In the Pacific Northwest we've been supplying honey, sweeteners, spices, dried fruits, nuts, oils, and other quality ingredients to natural food manufacturers, bakeries and markets and other stores for over forty years. We employ 200 hard-working people and provide products to countless businesses around the Pacific Northwest.

Glory Bee supports the passage of SB 929, the Oregon Pollinator Protection Act. Members of our family business were active in the 2015 Legislative work to protect honey bees. We see SB 929 as a natural extension of the accomplishments of Representative Reardon, who helped make Oregon a leader in pollinator education.

Seven major bee die-offs occurred in Oregon causing the deaths of hundreds of thousands of bees due to exposure to neonicotinoids. Unfortunately, neonicotinoids are the active ingredient in common home garden and lawn products. Neonicotinoids are bio-persistent pesticides. The pesticide ingredients become part of the nectar, the pollen and even the moisture, or sweat, of the plant. Bees are poisoned as they visit and pollinate flowers and trees that have been treated with neonicotinoid pesticides.

We support SB 929 because the bill would require reserving these highly toxic and persistent pesticides for professional use only. People working on farms, orchards, plant nurseries, etc. will still be able to buy and use these products when needed. However, neonicotinoids should not be available to the general consumer. There are plenty of non-toxic and effective alternatives for home gardeners on the market that are safe for bees and other beneficial insects like butterflies and lady bugs.

Many millions of honey bees and native bees rely on urban settings for pollen and nectar. Glory Bee relies on healthy and abundant bees populations. Let's protect Oregon bees!

Thank you for taking the time to consider our input.

Sincerely,
RaeJean Wilson, Senior Executive Vice President
GloryBee, Inc

Alan Turanski, President
GloryBee, Inc

Ingredients for Healthy Living