

I AM WRITING IN SUPPORT OF SB 892, A BILL THAT WOULD PROVIDE ADVANCED NOTIFICATION BEFORE AN AERIAL HERBICIDE SPRAY AND INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT WAS SPRAYED.

Exposing unsuspecting citizens to possible carcinogens without fair warning is inhumane!

I reside one mile East of the city of Gold Beach and have been exposed to aerial spraying over the past years. I have encountered serious illness while on my property during aerial herbicide applications. I have incurred thousands of dollars in medical expenses in addition to a loss of a productive life while recovering from these herbicide exposures.

If I had been given advanced warning, I could have left my property to avoid the up-wind chemical DRIFT. In some cases there was barely enough time FOR ME TO RUN BACK INSIDE AND to close the windows in my home.

Allowing aerial spraying should be a crime in itself; but subjecting individuals to these aerial assaults without warning is criminal! EVEN AN AERIAL SPRAY THAT IS CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO THE OREGON FOREST PRACTICES ACT AND PESTICIDE LAW CAN RESULT IN DRIFT TO NEARBY PROPERTIES. BY THE TIME CITIZENS LIKE ME REPORT THE PROBLEM TO A STATE AGENCY AND AN INVESTIGATION IS DONE, THE HARM TO OUR HEALTH HAS ALREADY OCCURRED.

HAVING ADVANCED NOTIFICATION WOULD GO A LONG WAY TO ALLEVIATING THIS PROBLEM.

The state has an obligation to protect its citizens. Please pass this bill!

I have documentation to support my allegations.

Thank you.

Jim Sweeney,
FOREST Landowner/Victim of Aerial Spraying
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