

From: Sabolch Horvat
To: [SENRR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Public Testimony for SB 929, the Oregon Pollinator Protection Act
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 9:29:15 AM

Dear Committee Chair and Members:

I support SB 929.

Native pollinators are a keystone species and play a critical role in sustaining 90% of Oregon's plant life, but pesticides which are highly toxic are causing a disastrous decline in populations of bees and other pollinators. Fender's blue butterfly, Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly, Franklin's Bumblebee, and even the Western Bumblebee populations have rapidly disappeared across Oregon's landscape.

Not only are we destroying crucial pollinator habitat, but people are indiscriminately spraying highly toxic and systemic neonicotinoid-containing pesticides. Neonicotinoids have been strongly linked to the decline in bee survival. This ecological catastrophe puts our ecosystems and food systems in peril. It is urgent that Oregon take action now to save native bees from extinction.

The Oregon Pollinator Protection Act will prevent homeowners from reaching for bee-killing pesticides on store shelves and bringing these poisons home. This will make a significant difference in the survival of native bees across the state.

Thank you for listening to my comment.

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