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**To:** Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources

**Date:** March 27, 2017

**Subject:** SB 929

It's imperative that we protect our citizens by protecting our wild bees. These keystone species are indicative of ecosystem health that supports life in Oregon as we know it. By reducing the level of bee-killing pesticides in the environment we not only protect our wild bees, we protect a vast number of other plants and animals native to Oregon from becoming imperiled.

There is nothing more "Oregon" than the salmon. Our salmon support commercial and recreational fisheries and are an integral part of the Oregon's aquatic ecosystems. Recent scientific studies have shown that aquatic insects are particularly susceptible to neonic toxicity. These food insects constitute the foundation of the fish food web, serving as the main forage for salmon and trout. If neonics have detrimental effects on this aquatic resource, it could have ripple effects up the food chain to fish that Oregonians rely on for food and recreation.

In 2015, we passed legislation to help educate landscapers, orchardists, vector control specialists, and others on how to apply these chemicals while minimizing the consequences. Now it's time to take the next step and get them out of the hands of the innocent and unsuspecting home-gardeners that are buying these pesticides without any knowledge of how to properly apply them. Urban uses are a significant source of pesticide pollution in surface waters.

Given the preponderance of scientific evidence that neonics adversely impact many important aquatic species and ecosystem services at levels widely detected in freshwater systems I urge you to favorably consider SB 929.

/s/ Floyd Prozanski

