

From: Theresa Syphers
To: [SENRR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 929
Date: Friday, March 31, 2017 3:58:04 PM

Dear Senate Committee for Environment and Natural Resources,

I am writing today because of my appreciation for the value of bees in my life (briefly describe why saving bees is important to you personally).

Oregon's native pollinators are now some of the most elusive species in the entire Pacific Northwest. For example, our 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 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! The last place for dangerous and persistent poisons is in the yards of Oregon homeowners.

Please, help protect Oregon's landscape by adding much-needed protections for our keystone pollinator species. Protecting Oregon's pollinators from highly toxic pesticides protects Oregonians from a bare and desolate landscape in years to come.

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