

Please OPPOSE SB 96 & HB 2772

Both bills would establish a product stewardship program (PSP) for household hazardous waste (HHW). The legislation directs Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) to approve and manage a new and complex program that does not guarantee new collection opportunities.

Our main concerns continue to be that:

One size-fits-all does not work. The legislation provides an expansive list of chemicals without the corresponding understanding of what this cost to the state, businesses, and consumers. Instead, we believe this will result in an expensive program with little benefits beyond what the state is or can already do.

Proponents have not demonstrated that this legislation can deliver on their goals.

Proponents have not demonstrated that the broad approach outlined in the bills ensures that the system will produce the most cost effective, innovative, efficient and environmentally protective management systems. Any new law should be carefully designed and implemented to ensure that the most cost effective, innovative, efficient and environmentally protective management systems are available for all products.

This is an unnecessary burden on Oregon businesses. Local governments already have the authority to implement programs to improve and increase recycling and waste management programs.

We have effective programs. According to DEQ, in 2013 88% of Oregonians had access to at least one comprehensive HHW service, with 71% having a permanent facility in their county, or access to it. We should not give up on these successes by overhauling the system as proposed, but rather continue to improve on those programs.

DEQ, businesses, and waste managers are already directed to reduce hazardous waste. Businesses already reduce waste through current state and federal laws like the Toxics Use and Hazardous Waste Reduction Act and programs like the paint and electronic recycling programs.

Places up to \$25,000 in civil penalties on small business retailers. Establishes new sales requirements on retailers regarding container labels and new materials to be supplied at time of sale. Failure to comply leaves retailers vulnerable to an up to \$25,000 per day fine.

Please join us in opposing SB 96 & HB 2772.

