

Support and Pass HB 3058

Dear Legislators,

I am a pediatrician who has been practicing in the Eugene Springfield area for the last forty years. I currently work for Peacehealth Medical Group.

I am writing you to support passage of HB 3058 which would ban the use of chlorpyrifos. Scientific consensus notes that these agents have been associated with developmental disabilities in children. These nerve agents have been shown to cause brain damage in the developing brains of babies and toddlers. Lower IQs, impaired working memory and delayed motor development are all likely consequences of intrauterine exposure or exposure more directly from pesticide drift or residue in food.

I am confronted every day in my professional life with ADHD and other behavioral problems leading to school failure. These agents have a direct link to contributing to these problems. Although we do have interventions which help children with these problems the reality is that schools are overwhelmed with the challenge and many children suffer from academic failure.

I am distressed that there are more restrictions on the use of dangerous pesticides in the production of cannabis than in food production. Chlorpyrifos have no place in the growing of foods. These agents are systemic and therefore cannot be washed off fruits and vegetables. General consumers are unlikely to be prepared to understand how to use these agents properly.

We have a system in place to assure that medicines and vaccines are safe before they are released for use on our patients. It is with some degree of outrage to note there exists quite a different culture when it comes to use of chemicals in our environment.

In summary then I heartily support HB 3058. This represents a small step in the right direction to protect the people of Oregon and future generations of Oregonians.

Sincerely yours

John Dunphy MD

Pediatrician; Peacehealth Medical Group

Home address: 36041 highway 58; Pleasant Hill, Oregon, 97455