

## Watts Remy

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**From:** Bill Merrigan <bill@bluemtseeds.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 23, 2019 10:58 AM  
**To:** SENR Exhibits  
**Subject:** SB 853

Dear Senators,

I am writing to register my opposition to SB 853 which would ban the sale and use of Chlorpyrifos in the state of Oregon and also make all neonicotinoids restricted use in the state.

Oregon has vast diversity in agriculture production and pest control products with these active ingredients are vital in producing high quality, pest free products that meet phytosanitary requirements around the world. It would be particularly harmful to our seed production industry in this state as there are very few registered options available to producers. It would put agriculture in Oregon at a competitive disadvantage with producers in other states.

We have demonstrated decades of safe and affective use of these products and thousands of studies have been done on these active ingredients and the EPA has continued to support their registrations and usage. I urge you to utilize state and federal agencies to make these decisions based on sound scientific date rather than allowing this dangerous precedent of Legislative action dictating what agriculture producers can and cannot use to protect their seed crops from pests.

Again I ask for your vote in opposition of SB 853. Thank you for your consideration.

Bill Merrigan  
Imbler, Oregon