



# PacificSeed Association

March 26, 2019

Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senators:

The Pacific Seed Association (PSA) is a regional seed industry organization representing over 90 seed companies and affiliated business members across 13 western states. Our Association is in opposition to Senate Bill 853, and respectfully submits this letter for the Senate Committee hearing record on Tuesday, March 26.

If passed and signed into Law Senate Bill 853 would ban the sale, purchase or use of chlorpyrifos in the state of Oregon. Chlorpyrifos (also known as Lorsban) is an important pest product used on a number of seed crops produced in the state of Oregon. Losing this effective pest management tool would be bad for Oregon seed producers as there is a limited number of registered products available for use. Removing this product from Oregon seed production would allow for a competitive and unfair advantage for non-Oregon seed producers to continue the use of this product.

Senate Bill 853 also designates neonicotinoids as a restricted-use. The new designation would mean that Oregon seed producers would have to obtain a pesticide applicator license to purchase and use neonicotinoid products on seed crops. Oregon seed producers currently don't have to do this so this creates the burden of Oregon producers having to study and take a test and go through training to acquire a license to apply a product they are currently authorized to apply without a license.

On a broader scale our Industry is concerned about losing a product that has a 40-year history of success. More than 4,000 studies and reports have been done on this product and it is still registered for use by the EPA. We are even more concerned that instead of depending upon our state and federal agencies to make the decisions to ban certain pesticide products based on scientific data this Legislation sets a precedent for any legislative action to dictate what seed producers can and cannot use to protect their seed crops from insects and other pests.

We ask for your vote in opposition to Senate Bill 853. Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

Martin Luttrell, President

55 SW 5th Avenue  
Suite 100  
Meridian ID 83642

p 208 888 0988  
f 208 888 4586  
[www.pacificseed.org](http://www.pacificseed.org)