

1 April 2019

**To the State of Oregon Senate**

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**FORESTRY PESTICIDE PROJECT** Senate Bill Number: [SB 926](#)

I am a semi-retired civil engineer with a lifetime's experience in river (basin) management and restoration. As a pioneer in the production of watershed plans, I'm very aware of the dangers inherent in spreading poisons on the land, whether for farm and forest, or municipal weed management.

Aerial herbicide spraying should be prohibited on state-owned forest lands. Oregon law allows helicopters to spray dangerous herbicides on many thousands of acres of state forests. These forests provide essential drinking water to downstream communities and to native wildlife. Aerial herbicide sprays are ultra-hazardous because herbicides does drift for miles.

Our state forests and public funds should not be used to put drinking water and rural communities at risk of being contaminated by herbicides or any pesticides.

Please vote to support this small but necessary step for Oregon to re-evaluate the impacts of pesticide use on drinking water and wildlife, human health. In a democracy like Oregon, the Public has the right to be informed about chemical exposures, and to cease these practices.

I'm writing to provide public testimony in support of SB 926. Thank you for voting to support this bill.

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