

HB 2619 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Energy and Environment

Action Date: 04/09/19

Action: Without recommendation as to passage, with amendments, and be referred to Rules.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 6-3-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Helm, Salinas, Schouten, Sollman, Wilde, Williams

Nays: 3 - Findley, Reschke, Zika

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits the sale, purchase, or use of a pesticide containing chlorpyrifos in the state of Oregon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- House Bill 3058 and Senate Bill 853 are similar bills that had public hearings March 26, 2019
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considering a ban of chlorpyrifos
- Committee sending the bill to the House Rules Committee without recommendation as to passage

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Chlorpyrifos is an organophosphate insecticide used to control a variety of pests, including termites, mosquitos, and roundworms. All pesticides sold or distributed in the U.S. must be registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which involves an evaluation of the human health and other risks attributable to the chemicals that make up the pesticide, identification of proper usage, and labeling to ensure the pesticide will not have unreasonable adverse effects on humans or the environment.

Findings from a 2014 human health and risk assessment of chlorpyrifos led the EPA to issue a proposed rule to revoke all tolerances of chlorpyrifos, indicating that no amount of chlorpyrifos residue on foods would be considered acceptable. Based on public comment regarding the proposed rule, a revised human health and risk assessment was conducted and was published by the EPA in November 2016. The 2016 assessment identified risks from dietary exposure as a result of ingesting residues of chlorpyrifos on food crops and risks from drinking water. Other findings included wildlife mortality associated with chlorpyrifos use on residential lawns, termite abatement, and application on golf courses. Currently, chlorpyrifos remains a registered pesticide; however the EPA continues to consider a tolerance revocation, which would require all agricultural uses of chlorpyrifos cease.

House Bill 2619 would prohibit the sale, offer of sale, purchase, or use in the state of any pesticide product containing chlorpyrifos.