

From: [Eric Feldhusen](#)
To: [HHC Exhibits](#)
Subject: Oppose HB 4109
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2020 8:30:05 AM

Dear Chair Salinas,

To my State Representatives,

The proposed HB 4109 is unnecessary. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has already initiated rulemaking to reduce worker exposure to chlorpyrifos. HB 4109 is an attempt to circumvent the state regulatory process.

HB 4109 opens the door to the legislators making pesticide use decisions product-by-product instead of relying on the science teams and regulators at our state and federal agencies. The legislature does not have that expertise.

HB 4109 completely bans the sale, distribution and use of all pesticide products containing chlorpyrifos. These insecticides are needed by Oregon farmers to protect our food supply and meet the needs of a growing population. The unique nature of Oregon's diverse agriculture results in very few, if any, products available for controlling pests for some crops. Chlorpyrifos is vital for protecting Oregon's minor crops, such as specialty seeds, Christmas trees, grass seed, and alfalfa.

Many of Oregon's specialty crops have state-approved Special Local Need registrations of chlorpyrifos since there are no alternative products available for certain pests.

HB 4109 will impact Oregon agricultural exports. Other countries and states have strong phytosanitary requirements. This legislation takes away a tool used to meet those requirements for crops with limited or no alternatives. Additionally, public health programs will not have the tools needed to control invasive insect populations.

Chlorpyrifos is an important part of Integrated Pest Management programs and Insect Resistance Management programs. Use of IPM cropping systems and preventing pest resistance can lead to more sustainable agriculture and reduced farming costs, allowing farmers to minimize production costs while supporting a sustainable food supply. I ask you to oppose HB 4109 and allow the regulatory process at ODA to move forward.

A short session is not the time to push through a bill of this nature that would have huge effects on the Agricultural Industry in this state.

Sincerely,

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