

**From:** [Brian Glaser](#)  
**To:** [HHC Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose HB 4109  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 9:20:09 AM

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Dear Chair Salinas,

Hello Chairman and members of the committee,

I am a grass seed, small grain, and specialty seed producer operating in central Linn county. I am opposed to HB 4109 due to its complete ban on the sale, distribution and use of all pesticide products containing chlorpyrifos. These products are a very important tool I need to have in my toolbox to protect the crops I grow.

I work diligently to improve my management strategies and farming practices to grow a quality crop while protecting the land and environment. I use reduced tillage and direct seeding techniques to minimize the soil disturbance, whereby, building the health of the soil, increasing soil organic matter, improving water infiltration, and reducing soil erosion and water runoff. I have adopted integrated pest management (IPMs) strategies when dealing with pest. With the improved soil health on my farm, comes increased biological life. This is important to the balancing of nature to protect crop health and the ecosystem. When a damaging pest arrives that biological and soft insecticides cannot control, I need a tool like Chlorpyrifos, using it as a last resort, to bring balance back into nature's system of plant life. I have developed strategies, when needing to use Chlorpyrifos, as the last option of controlling pest, to minimize the area of application and amount of product used. I do not apply to an area larger than absolute necessary for control of the pest while minimizing the impact to other beneficial insect in my fields. There are currently no other tools available that can be substituted for chlorpyrifos products when needing the heavy hammer to hit back at a pest that has no other control measures.

Chlorpyrifos is an important part of my Integrated Pest Management program. It is also an important tool I use very limited, and only when absolute necessary, for maintaining my Insect Resistance Management program. Use of IPM cropping systems and preventing pest resistance can lead to more sustainable agriculture and reduced farming costs, allowing farmers as myself to minimize production costs while supporting a sustainable food supply.

As stated, I am growing several different specialty crops that have few, if any, products for controlling pests.

Oregon has over 220 different crops being grown in this great state. This fact brings the importance to the forefront that producers need to have products such as chlorpyrifos available for controlling pests in crops with few approved options. Oregon department of agriculture (ODA) recognizes this need and works with the regulatory authorities to provide Special Local Needs registrations of chlorpyrifos for many of these specialty crops due to the fact that there are no other alternative products available to control these harmful pest.

Many of my crops, if not most, are exported out of this state. Many countries and states have strong phytosanitary requirements for products entering their location. HB 4109 will impact my sales and shipments because it removes a tool required to meet those requirements for exporting crops that have few if any other alternatives.

I am opposed to HB 4109 because it 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.

I am also concerned that HB 4109 removes much needed tools that the public health programs need for controlling invasive insect populations that can and will pose treats to our people. Just in the recent news, you can find countries fighting massive insect problems looking for methods for control, while having limited products and quantities of products available for quick action. Reports of food shortages and decimated economies have been reported in some of these areas.

I ask you to oppose HB4109 and allow the regulatory process at ODA to work and move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brian Glaser

Sincerely,

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