

**From:** [Dianne Ensign](#)  
**To:** [HHC Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Support for H.B. 4109 The Healthy Kids and Farmworkers Act  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 12:15:31 PM

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Dear Chair Salinas and members of the Committee on Health Care,

I care deeply about protecting the environment, human health, and other species. I urge your strong support of **HB 4109**, phasing out chlorpyrifos in Oregon, and ask that you vote **HB 4109** out of your committee with a "do pass" recommendation.

It has been well documented that chlorpyrifos harms kids' brains, and is linked to infertility, cancer, respiratory diseases, and developmental disorders, and also harms wildlife and water quality. Oregon needs to act urgently to protect human and environmental health from this unsafe and unnecessary pesticide. HB 4109 will end aerial spraying of chlorpyrifos in Oregon, protect children by prohibiting chlorpyrifos use within 300 feet of schools, and add stronger protections for farmworkers.

HB 4109 includes a phase-out period of more than a year to give farmers time to adjust to the many alternative options. These are reasonable steps for Oregon to ensure response to the long-standing warnings that there are no safe levels of exposure to this extremely neurotoxic chemical. A phase-out will not only protect children and farmworkers; it will benefit pollinators and other wildlife also exposed to the toxic pesticide, and encourage safer alternatives that promote healthy soils.

It is my strong belief that chlorpyrifos has no place in Oregon. Thank you for considering my testimony in strong support of the measure.

Sincerely,

Dianne Ensign  
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