

**From:** [Terry and Vicki](#)  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** HB4109  
**Date:** Friday, February 21, 2020 12:25:14 AM

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Dear Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources,

I am a family farmer, writing to you in support of HB4109. My family farm is surrounded by fields that receive spray applications each year. Until two years ago, applications were made by operators on foot or vehicle. The resulting drift was noticeable but not disruptive. I requested to be notified prior to spraying so I could avoid exposure for myself and my family but learned that I have no way to find out when or what is sprayed by my neighbors. Last year, all surrounding fields were sprayed by airplane. On three separate occasions, my family suffered with digestive symptoms in the days following each application. I will be grateful to know that chlorpyrifos is not one of the pesticides my family will be exposed to in this manner.

Contrary to circulating misinformation, plenty of alternatives to chlorpyrifos already exist that are used successfully by many Oregon farmers. The Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides provides a comprehensive list of safe and effective alternatives that already exist.

My only concern with HB4109 is that the amendment regarding exceptions to the prohibition of chlorpyrifos will make it too easy to meet exception criteria. After all, the EPA concluded that there are no safe levels of chlorpyrifos exposures in food and drinking water for infants and children. Children and farmworkers deserve to live without the risk of being exposed to an unquestionably harmful neurotoxin. Continued use of chlorpyrifos for the economic gain of a few does not justify the unacceptable health risks to our community members.

Thank you for your service,  
-Viktoria Hsu, Ph.D. and farmer.  
Salem, Oregon