

September 17, 2021

Re: Requesting a retraction of the corrupted, misleading OHA report on children’s health impact from wireless radiation exposure in Oregon’s public schools

Dear Senate Education Committee members,

In June, 2019 the Oregon State Legislature passed [Senate Bill 283](#) which called upon the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to “*review peer-reviewed, independently funded scientific studies of the health effects of exposure to microwave radiation, particularly exposure that results from the use of wireless network technologies in schools...*”

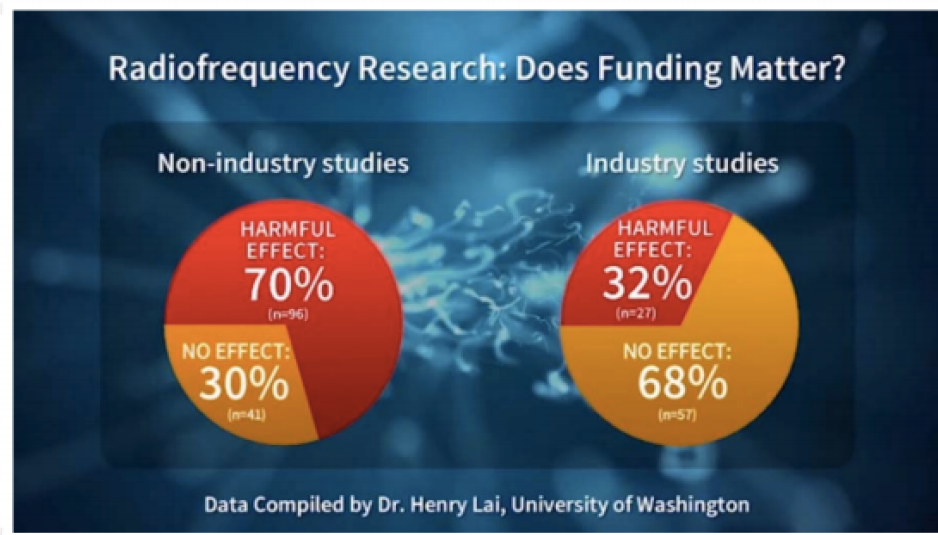
OHA’s [final report](#) was released to the Legislature on December 31, 2020.

According to scientists, public health professionals and medical experts who study the biological effects and public health impacts from radiofrequency radiation (RFR) exposure, the study is fundamentally flawed due to its wireless industry-friendly design.

Additionally, the authors of the OHA report knowingly excluded published animal studies that show harmful impacts, failed to consider the unique vulnerability of children, conspired to exclude scientific evidence showing biological harm to children and based their assessment upon studies funded by the wireless industry, a clear violation of the legislative mandate to only consider “independently-funded scientific studies.”

Please refer to the chart below showing the justification for the legislative directive to assess only non industry-funded studies to ensure more accurate, unbiased conclusions about biological harm to children from WiFi and other wireless exposure in Oregon’s public schools:

Independent Studies vs. Industry Funded Research.



Also excluded from the OHA report are the following crucial scientific findings:

1. the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)/WHO's classification of wireless RFR exposure as a [possible human carcinogen](#), placing it in the same health risk category as lead, DDT and diesel exhaust,
2. conclusions from the 10 year, \$30 million major animal study conducted by the U.S National Toxicology Program (NTP) that determined "[clear evidence](#)" of cancer and DNA damage from RFR exposure, and
3. studies showing that RFR [penetrates deeper](#) into children's brains, [damages the brain](#), and is associated with [breast cancer](#).

From the May 24th investigative report titled, "*Oregon Health Authority Condemned by Scientists for Scrubbing Report on Wireless Hazards in Schools*" by Daniel Forbes, published in [The Washington Spectator](#) was the following accounting of scientific evidence and conclusions that had been "scrubbed" from the initial draft version of the OHA report:

"....Citing five papers, the [first draft](#) (pg. 37) states that, "*All the studies that investigated the outcomes of general health and symptoms of ill health found that EMF exposure negatively impacted health.*" That disappeared. Of the five papers cited, two do not appear in the final report; the other three appear in the tables only—not the body of the report—where they are basically dismissed.

The first draft continues (pg. 37), "*In the studies that examined EMF exposure and general health and symptoms of ill health, it is found that individuals with exposure to EMF are more likely to have poorer health outcomes.*" Crossed out and deleted.

.....also gone was the first-draft statement that **33 studies in one category suggested adverse effects versus 19 suggesting no effects**. Also deleted in the section on mental health issues such as stress and depression, the first draft said that **13 studies found adverse effects, while 7 did not**.

Then there's this from page 37 of the first draft: "*It is found that prenatal exposure of EMF and exposure during childhood could lead to adverse effects of childhood development....*" The next sentence reads, "*Exposure to EMF could lead to genotoxicity*"—that is, mutation that can lead to cancer.

A quote omitted from the OHA final report was a finding from one study that reported, "*Symptoms of retarded memory, learning, cognition, attention, and behavioral problems have been reported in numerous studies and are similarly manifested in autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, as a result of EMF and RFR exposures where both epigenetic drivers and genetic (DNA) damage are likely contributors. **Technology benefits can be realized by adopting wired devices for education to avoid health risk and promote academic achievement.***"

It is important to note that upon seeing the wireless industry-influenced conclusion of the OHA report released at 5 pm on New Years Eve, I filed an Oregon Public Records Request to obtain “ALL draft versions of the OHA report.” I was provided only four of the five available drafts – **the original version of the report was not provided to me. There was no reason given or even a mention of this 1st draft of the report; that version was simply withheld from me in response to my public records request.**

Subsequently, from the Washington Spectator article, I learned of all the scientific evidence showing harm to children that had appeared in that first draft version of OHA’s report. Those conclusions from published studies reviewed in the “concealed” 1st draft of the OHA report showing harm were blatantly deleted **and did not appear in the final report.**

The OHA report is a grossly inaccurate assessment of the current state of science regarding the risk of harm to children from wireless radiation exposure in Oregon’s public schools. Most troubling is that the report’s false and misleading conclusion stating no evidence of harm creates the false illusion that exposure to wireless radiation is safe...even for the most vulnerable among us, our children.

The families of Oregon’s 600,000 public school children have the right to know the truth!

For the above reasons, we urge you to direct OHA to retract and correct its scientifically corrupt and misleading report for:

- **failing to abide by the bill's mandate** to include only "independently-funded" studies and relying upon industry-funded studies to reach the report’s false and misleading conclusion.
- being scientifically biased and flawed for not following the basic principles of scientific review.
- engaging in some sort of concerted conspiracy to mislead the public by “scrubbing” scientific evidence of harm to children from wireless radiation exposure that appeared in the first draft of the report.

Respectfully submitted,

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