

## **Testimony for OHA Report on Wireless Radiation (SB 283)**

### **Testimony of David O. Carpenter MD**

I am [Director of the Institute for Health and the Environment at the University at Albany](#), a Collaborating Centre of the World Health Organization. I am former Dean of the School of Public Health at the University, receiving an MD from Harvard Medical School and I have researched and published for decades on non ionizing radiation.

The current body of science showing adverse human health effects from wireless radiation is strong and consistent- it is adequate to trigger government action. Wireless is a growing environmental exposure in schools *presenting a serious risk that needs to be mitigated* in order to protect children's health *-as well as the health of teachers and staff.*

[Several reviews conclude that](#) wireless radiofrequency can cause cancer. In addition, credible published studies have found [memory problems](#), [behavioral problems](#), [altered brain development](#), [oxidative stress](#) and [effects on fertility](#).

I signed a [letter to Oregon Governor Brown](#) calling for a retraction of the Oregon Health Authority report due to its inaccuracies and lack of scientific rigor.

Our letter documents how the Oregon Health Authority report did not follow science based methodologies for evaluating hazard and risk. It did not even attempt to characterize current exposures in the school setting- where children are absorbing wireless radiation into their bodies from numerous devices including- cell phones, Wi-Fi routers, chromebooks, tablets- as well as nearby cell towers.

A scientifically defensible investigation *should have* included the findings of experimental animal research which has found cancer, DNA damage and damage to the brain. The failure of Oregon Health Authority to consider this animal evidence is contrary to public health principles and OHA's own established protocols of using animal studies in its other reviews.

Because this report is not a robust systematic review of the relevant literature and has omitted critical research evidence, it cannot make any type of conclusion regarding the risk to Oregon's school children from wireless in the classroom.

Further, the Report omitted the fact that the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) along with hundreds of doctors and scientists worldwide recommend reducing children's wireless exposure *because they are uniquely vulnerable*. Children have thinner skulls and absorb [more radiation](#) deeper into critical brain centers compared to adults. More importantly their rapidly developing brains are more sensitive and they will have a lifetime of exposure.

The OHA Reports flawed methodology -as well as its numerous inaccuracies- warrant a retraction. A robust scientific review *that includes* research on children's vulnerability and animal research is needed in order for legislators to make fully informed policy decisions.

*One cannot say there is "no evidence"*. There is, in fact, clear and compelling scientific evidence showing wireless radiation at legally allowed levels is harmful- especially for children. Protective policy action is urgently needed to reduce wireless exposures- especially in schools and daycares where children spend 7 hours or more a day.

End of Oral Testimony



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