

Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 2928 for the regulation of use of chemical incapacitants kinetic impact projectiles and sound devices by law enforcement agencies. I am a preschool teacher here in Portland, as well as a volunteer organizer with Sunrise PDX.

I am horrified by the effects of these chemicals we have witnessed. Dramatic changes to menstruation cycles, lung damage, Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome and more. By merely walking over the ground where these chemicals were used the day before, one can feel the particles catching in one's throat and inducing a cough. Needless to say this utter disregard for human health and well-being is unacceptable.

We do not yet know all the long-term effects these chemicals will cause in our community-- both for humans and the rest of the environment. As chemicals are washed into our waterways, what does that mean for fish, for clean drinking water? The harm inflicted on peaceful protestors and neighbors continues to cause harm to our community. This must stop.

Thank you Representative Bynum and Representative Pham for being sponsors on this bill.