

Submitter: Doug Simpson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB426

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 426. As a father of a (now grown) son, I remember well his years in school. I wanted the best experiences and learning environment for him.

Some things parents cannot control for their children: who their teachers might be; world events that might shape their classes; accidents or events that appear without warning. As parents, then, we want to do everything we can for our children, and everyone's children. We want them to learn in a safe environment, eat nourishing food and take part in the best learning experiences possible.

One thing I was never concerned about then was the additional impact of dangerous pesticides and herbicides used indiscriminately on school grounds. I know now how dangerous these chemicals can be, especially when used in a thoughtless or incorrect way. I believe we need strong controls on the use of these chemicals with appropriate training for their use. An individual school may expend the effort to learn to use appropriate methods applying these chemicals, while another be far less likely to be concerned about their use. We need state oversight to monitor these chemicals. This is an appropriate use of state oversight. Controls and training need to be applied uniformly across our state.

I urge our state government to support this bill and ensure adequate funding to carry out its mandate. Thank you for your continuing efforts for all our children.

Yours truly,

Doug Simpson