

Beth –

In response to the Committee's question:

**Q: *Would SB 360 apply to devices beyond backpack sprayers, such as drones? Are there other application technologies that would be allowed under the bill as written?***

**A:** No, SB 360 would not exempt drones. Aerial pesticide applications including those conducted with drones would still require an aerial applicator license under ORS 634.128. Based on our understanding, the five-gallon capacity limit effectively restricts the exemption to small, battery-powered devices such as backpack sprayers or handheld units.

The exemption is explicitly limited to employees of public applicators and their employees using general-use pesticides and battery-powered application equipment. It does not apply to commercial applicators or companies conducting professional pesticide applications, who would still be required to obtain the appropriate licenses.

We will note that in SB 360, unlike traditional licensure pathways, this exemption is activity-based. The Oregon Department of Agriculture would be responsible for developing training materials, which employers must provide prior to the use of battery-powered application equipment.

Jonathan

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