

February 14, 2025

TO: House Committee on Education
FROM: Chloe Acosta, Our Children Oregon
SUBJECT: Support for HB 2684

Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2684. My name is Chloe Acosta and I am a Policy and Advocacy Intern for Our Children Oregon (OCO), a statewide organization that advances equitable policies, data and research, and whole-child advocacy.

This year, HB 2684, Toxic Free Schools, is included in Our Children Oregon's 2025 Children's Agenda.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) focuses on nontoxic and least toxic control methods to address pest problems. To protect young people, IPM in schools has been recommended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, American Public Health Association, and the National Parent Teacher Association (Roberts, J., & Karr, C. (2018). *Pesticide Exposure in Children*).

Oregon's children deserve to go to school in an environment that is safe and toxic free. HB 2684 is designed to protect students from pesticide exposure while they are at school.

This bill will:

- Require school district governing bodies to review and update school Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plans every 5 years.
- Require low-impact pesticides list be reviewed and updated every 5 years by each school districts governing body.
- Require School IPM plans to be available on school district websites to ensure plans are transparent and accessible.
- Add school gardens to the definition of campuses.

We thank you for your time and commitment to improving the lives of young Oregonians. **Our Children Oregon urges you to support Toxic Free Schools and vote yes on HB 2684.**

Thank you,

Chloe Acosta, Policy and Advocacy Intern, Our Children Oregon

View the [2025 Children's Agenda](#)