



February 15, 2025

To: Chair and Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Jeanne Roy and Amy Higgs, Eco-School Network

Subject: Support for HB 2684 – Strengthening School Integrated Pest Management Plans

Dear Chair and Members of the House Committee on Education,

On behalf of the Eco-School Network, an Oregon nonprofit that supports 95 elementary and middle schools and over 40,000 Oregon children, we are writing in strong support of House Bill 2684 to protect Oregon students and staff from unnecessary pesticide exposure on their school grounds.

Because of our interaction with parents in West Linn schools, we know that children regularly play on grounds that have been sprayed. Children are especially vulnerable to pesticide exposure due to their developing immune and nervous systems. HB 2684 ensures that school districts review, update if needed, and readopt plans every five years. The need is to ensure that plans are up to date using the latest research-backed strategies.

Currently, many parents and educators are unaware of the pesticides used in their schools. HB 2684 requires school districts to make their Integrated Pest Management plans and low-impact pesticide lists available online, ensuring families and school staff have easy access to critical safety information. Most of our elementary schools in the Metro area have gardens that are important learning spaces for students. The law needs to be updated to make sure school gardens are protected from pesticide drift and deposition.

I urge you to support HB 2684 to protect students and staff by ensuring stronger, more transparent, and science-based pest management practices in Oregon schools.

Gratefully,

Jeanne Roy  
Board Chair Emeritus, Co-Founder

Amy Higgs  
Executive Director