

Submitter: Stephanie Tabibian
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2684

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name Stephanie Tabibian and I am writing in support of House Bill 2684. This bill is important for protecting Oregon students and school staff from unnecessary pesticide exposure while promoting safer pest management practices in schools. As a mom of a child with disabilities I believe it is important to protect children from unintentional dangers of chemical exposures in school settings. This includes classrooms, playgrounds and school gardens. We all want safe places for our children to grow learn and play.

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 5 years. Reviewing and re-adopting School IPM plans is an essential process for school districts to ensure their plans are up to date with modern science that agencies use to amend pesticide laws. This bill helps school districts maintain best practices in pest management while protecting students, teachers, and school staff from exposure to harmful chemicals.

This bill will also add safeguards for better communication about pesticides in and around school gardens and help protect gardens as learning spaces and the food that is grown and eaten by students and sometimes families.

Please pass HB 2684.

Sincerely
Stephanie Tabibian