CITY OF WHEELER



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Oregon State Senate Committee on Environmental and Natural Resources 900 Court St. NE

Re: SB 892, SB 499

Dear Committee Members:

We the undersigned members of the Wheeler City Council urge you to consider the passage of Senate Bills 892 and 499 in furtherance of community and citizen protections as they relate to the application of spray pesticides.

As a coastal community that is directly adjacent to large tract of forest management activity, we are very familiar with the application of aerial spray chemicals and the effect they have upon our community. Many of our residents report feelings of nausea, headache, and other ailments directly following an application event.

While we respect the rights of all land owners to exercise their rights upon private property in keeping with the intent of land tenure, and law, we also respect the rights of individuals adjacent to such property to be free from the activities of others. Aerial application activities are not static, and the effect of drift upon our community following an event is not only experienced, but real.

We believe that the intent of Senate Bills 892 and 499 to provide a 3-5 day notice period prior to an event, and the removal of pesticide applicator immunity are legislative steps to protecting the shared interests of all Oregonians. We hope that you share our sentiment, and take this testimony into consideration during your deliberations.

Mayor Stevie S. Burden

Councilman Dave Bell

Councilman Jim King

Council President Heidi Wilcox- Siglin

Councilman Bob Harlow

Councilman Loren Remy