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## **Senate Bill 853 Regulating Toxic Pesticides**

To: Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee public hearing on SB 853:  
1:00pm on Tuesday March 26th in Hearing Room C.

Dear Chair Dembrow and Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and  
Natural Resources,

I'm writing as a small farmer in southern Oregon, extremely concerned about the "first-strike" use of highly toxic poisons to control "weeds" in Oregon. Now that the lawsuits are mounting against pesticide manufacturers nationwide, now is an excellent time to steer Oregon toward protecting Life in Oregon.

Now is the time to ban these horrendous, toxic chemicals that were designed for use in warfare. I ask the State of Oregon to lead our nation toward Pollinator Friendly Agriculture. Without bees, there is no future for any agriculture.

Currently two bills; House Bill 3058 and Senate Bill 853 would ban the use of chlorpyrifos (pronounced: kloor-peer-uh-fos), a toxic nerve agent pesticide proven to cause brain damage in children, contaminate waterways and harm wildlife. These bills would restrict the use of bee-killing neonicotinoids (pronounced: nee-ō-nick-ō-tin-oids) to licensed professionals only, removing these products from store shelves.

[SB 853 would ban the purchase, sale, and use of Chlorpyrifos. It also lists Neonicotinoids as Restricted Use Pesticides](#), thereby requiring certification and training before buying, selling, or disseminating this particularly highly toxic class of pesticides. The effect would be removing neonicotinoid pesticides from the shelves in Oregon. The current version of the bill would make it easier for affected agricultural interests to get the training they need by reducing certification costs while also increasing the annual fee paid by pesticide manufacturers.

I'm asking you to take proactive measures to end the tyranny of chemical trespass against every Oregonian, Republican, Democrat or other. We need a complete ban on these terrible chemicals designed to cause Biocide.

**Thank you for taking this action in Oregon legislation to protect People, Wildlife and the Public Water Supply from these highly toxic pesticides.**

Christine Perala Gardiner, PhD  
Member, Beyond Toxics