Dear Chair Clem,

Dear Chair Brian Clem and Michael Dembrow,

HB 3058 and SB 853 open the door to the legislators making pesticide use decisions product-by-product instead of relying on the scientists and regulators at our state and federal agencies.

HB 3058 and SB 853 will completely ban the sale, distribution and use of all pesticide products containing chlorpyrifos, and they will require a pesticide applicator license to purchase or use a neonicotinoid product. These insecticides are needed to by Oregon farmers to protect our food supply and meet the needs of a growing population.

Many of Oregon's specialty crops have state-approved Special Local Need (SLN) registrations for chlorpyrifos since there are no alternative products available for certain pests. The unique nature of Oregon's diverse agriculture results in very few, if any, products available for controlling pests for some crops. Chlorpyrifos is vital for protecting Oregon's specialty crops.

HB 3058 and SB 853 will impact Oregon exports. Other countries and states have strong phytosanitary requirements. These bills take away a tool used to meet those requirements for crops with few if any alternatives.

Additionally, public health programs will not have the tools needed to control invasive insect populations.

These bills restrict the use of neonicotinoid products to licensed pesticide applicators. Many farmers are not currently licensed as they do not use Restricted Use pesticides. This would require farmer to obtain a pesticide applicator license. The bill also takes hundreds of effective and easy to use products away from homeowners and gardeners.

Chlorpyrifos and neonicotinoid insecticides are important components of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs and Insect Resistance Management programs. Use of IPM cropping systems and preventing pest resistance can lead to more sustainable agriculture and reduced farming costs, allowing farmers to minimize production costs while supporting a sustainable food supply.

Please support Oregon farmers and vote NO on HB 3058 and SB 853.

Sincerely,

Matthew Schuster 2181 Waconda Rd NE Gervais, OR 97026 mattanddestinee@gmail.com