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April 9, 2019 **Via Electronic Mail**

To: **House Committee on Energy and Environment**; **Representatives:** Noble; Post
[and many others].

Re: I SUPPORT [HB 2619]...But... Can there be an Amendment to protect commercial uses of Imidacloprid?

Neonicotinoids kill plant pollinators including Honey Bees.

The use of Imidacloprid in wood preservatives is very important to the wood preservative industries.

The wood preservation businesses do have a defensible arguments that the use of Imidacloprid can be used safely. However, in Oregon, the pesticide applicator and pesticide consultant licensure program is suspect even though there are several House Bill concerning pesticides and pesticide licensure issues.

No company wants to create an ecological disaster but they do occur because humans make mistakes.

There has been No testimony on how Imidacloprid deomposes when it burns. Does Imidacloprid become gaseous and therefore kills pollinators such as Honey Bees upon the burning of wood products treated with this chemical?

Further, Imidacloprid can be taken up as a systemic in certain plants like Sunflowers-a favorite for Honey Bees and this is not good.

Imidacloprid in small concentrations do affect Honey Bee behaviors. Imidacloprid is found in the wax comb in the hive and ***may cause*** Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). This is not good.

I am a small-time Honey Bee keeper and I am very sensitive to any chemical that can kill Honey Bees and or cause Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD).

How does one protect the environment (pollinators) while protecting and highly regulating a successful commercial product that serves to prolong the life span of wood products thereby saving trees?

It is easy to have an outright ban on all Neonicotinoids-they are designed to kill but, they are also designed to protect. ***The safety of pollinators is paramount.***

If you permit applications of Imidacloprid to be used in wood preservation products there must be demonstrable evidence on how Imidacloprid reacts in the environment, how fast it decomposes, rigorous regulations and inspections which may make the commercial use of Imidacloprid financially unfeasible.

It is a tough decision but, it gets even tougher if you have to pollinate vegetables and fruits we eat by hand.

Save the Bes and save the Trees!

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ David S. Wall

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