

Dear Chair Holvey,

HB 2619 opens 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.

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 2619 will impact Oregon exports. Other countries and states have strong phyto-sanitary requirements. HB 2619 will take away a tool used to meet those requirements for crops with few if any alternatives.

The active ingredient chlorpyrifos is an important part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program on the farm and insect resistance management plan. Use of IPM helps manage insect pressures, allowing farmers to minimize production costs while supporting local food and fiber production.

In some instances, there are no alternative products available for certain pests. This puts the health of crops in jeopardy and disadvantages Oregon farmers.

Compared to other pest management tools, chlorpyrifos acts against a broad range of pests and is often the most cost-effective option for growers. It is an important tool used within a rotation to manage insect resistance.

Please support local farmers and vote NO on HB 2619.

Sincerely,

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