



May 8, 2019

House Committee on Rules
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: *HB 2619 – Prohibits sale, purchase or Use of Chlorpyrifos*

Chairman Holvey, Vice-Chair Williamson, and distinguished members of the House Committee on Rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony about **HB 2619**, which would prohibit the use of Chlorpyrifos in Oregon. We respectfully oppose this legislation and **request an unfavorable vote.**

The Oregon Department of Agriculture ensures safe and proper pesticide use in the state through registration of pesticides, licensing of pesticide applicators, and through research and enforcement activities. State regulation of pesticides also ensures uniformity with federal regulation and scientific standards, especially human health and safety standards. Pesticides are rigorously reviewed, evaluated and approved for sale and use at the state and federal levels on an ongoing basis, ensuring they meet the most current scientific and safety standards. We are concerned HB 2619 fails to recognize the robust pesticide regulatory oversight and review system that is in place.

Chlorpyrifos is an effective tool for managing harmful and invasive pests that threaten the health and wellbeing of people and the environment in Oregon. Eliminating this critical tool would remove necessary tools for integrated pest management (IPM) and restrict the ability to treat against invasive insect species such as hemlock woolly adelgid and pine shoot beetle, potentially effectually exacerbating the spread of damaging invasive pests, which could cost the state substantial amounts of money in damaged natural resources.

Effective IPM programs can reduce pesticide use by using monitoring and manual controls as the first line of defense against pests, especially current and newly established invasive species. IPM programs create a plan to monitor, identify, and prevent problems. IPM includes all available tools and cultural practices for keeping communities and the environment safe and free from harm from pests. IPM programs are an economically viable and effective way to control pest that can harm people, ecosystems and our community property and natural resources. This is the approach used by licensed professionals applying chlorpyrifos to manage pest through the state.

Chlorpyrifos is an important insecticide to manage resistance in insect species. It is especially important for pest management in manufacturing, landfills, storage areas, railroads and construction. Further, Chlorpyrifos is an important insecticide in the IPM toolbox used in rotation with other technologies and methods to manage pests and resistance at our state's 203 golf courses.

Chlorpyrifos is currently undergoing a scientific review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. As part of that ongoing registration review, EPA is reviewing human health and ecological risk data updates as part of its assessment. We encourage the Committee to rely on ODA, which ensures safe and proper pesticide use in the state and allow the EPA and its pesticide experts the opportunity to complete their review and any recommended actions, rather than move forward with this legislation.

The wide-range of approved uses for Chlorpyrifos, shows its importance as a tool for certified applicators. In the interest of public health, environmental protection, and keeping with established IPM guidelines we again ask for **an unfavorable vote on HB 2619.**

Sincerely,

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RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) is the national association representing manufacturers, formulators, and distributors and other industry leaders engaged with specialty pesticides. We support and promote science-based policy in the regulation of pesticide products at both the state and federal levels.