From: Hilary McDonald
To: HHC Exhibits
Subject: Support for H.B. 4109 The Healthy Kids and Farmworkers Act
Date: Monday, February 10, 2020 9:13:41 PM

Dear Chair Salinas and members of the Committee on Health Care,

I am writing to urge your strong support of **HB 4109 (**phasing out chlorpyrifos in Oregon), and ask that you vote **HB 4109** out of your committee with a "do pass" recommendation.

The science on chlorpyrifos is clear: chlorpyrifos is known to harm kids' brains.

It is sprayed on Christmas trees, fruit (via orchards) and berries which our kids easily and often come in contact with. It is also important to protect Oregon's wildlife and environment from this dangerous pesticide.

Chlorpyrifos is linked to infertility, cancer, respiratory diseases, developmental disorders and more - and it is unacceptable to know this and continue to allow this pesticide to be used.

Oregon needs to act urgently to protect human and environmental health from this unsafe and unnecessary pesticide. HB 4109 will end aerial spraying of chlorpyrifos in Oregon, protect children by prohibiting chlorpyrifos use within 300 feet of schools, and add stronger protections for farmworkers.

HB 4109 includes a phase-out period of more than a year to give farmers time to adjust to the many alternative options, just like farmers in Hawaii and California (states which have already acted upon the research showing just how dangerous this pesticide is). These are reasonable steps for Oregon to ensure response to the long-standing warnings that there are no safe levels of exposure to this extremely neurotoxic chemical.

A phase-out will not only protect children and farmworkers; it will benefit pollinators and other wildlife also exposed to the toxic pesticide, and encourage safer alternatives that promote healthy soils.

It is my strong belief that chlorpyrifos has no place in Oregon.

Thank you for considering my testimony in strong support of the measure. This is important to me and our community.

Sincerely,

Hilary McDonald

Bend, Oregon