Dear Chair Dembrow,

I urge you to vote "NO" on HB 4109.

The short session is the wrong time to address complicated bills that have the potential to limit global market accessibility and increase the cost of farming in Oregon!

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has already initiated rulemaking to reduce worker exposure to chlorpyrifos. HB 4109 is a clear attempt to circumvent the state regulatory process, which is well underway and pursuing measures to protect human health.

HB 4109 opens the door to the legislators making pesticide use decisions product-by-product instead of relying on the science teams and regulators at our state and federal agencies. The legislature does not have that expertise, and the Health Care Committee didn't even hear from the regulators at the Department of Agriculture, OR-OSHA, or Pesticide Analytical and Response Center about uses of the product in Oregon.

It is irresponsible to ban a product without understanding the consequences to farm families. And HB 4109 provides NO support to farmers who lack alternatives to control pests, protect their crops, and access commodity markets.

Sincerely,

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