

We think this is an important bill. Not only does it begin the long overdue conversation about a homeowners rights for how their landscape is treated by an outside company, it also begins to open the door for consideration of more than just aesthetics. Since the mid-1900s, this country has been enamored with picture perfect landscapes, to the detriment of the Pollinators and other insects, birds, and wildlife that are critical for functioning ecosystems.

More and more information is coming out about the harm that herbicides, insecticides, and especially fungicides, are having on our pollinators and other insects upon which all other life depends. We feel this is something very important for the State of Oregon to consider. We have the Oregon Bee Project out of Oregon State University cataloging species of native bees in this state and finding that some are becoming extinct. With human development, and pesticide use, it's not surprising.

This bill is a small step towards helping homeowners who wish to have Pollinator's and other wildlife in their yard to do so without fear of major impact to those creatures. Dr. Doug Tallamy, the University of Delaware, Entomology, has written numerous books, articles, and made hundreds of presentations across the country about the need for planting native plants to support these pollinators, insects, birds, and other wildlife.

I would be impressed and amazed if the HOAs of Oregon could begin to understand this and do their small part to allow homeowners to opt out of having their front yards treated with toxic chemicals that can kill these beautiful insects and birds that we all depend on.

Thank you.

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