

Dear Chair and Members of the House Committee on Housing,

I am a resident of Lane county. I have been a renter in Oregon for the past 11 years and I am currently exploring the real estate market in hopes of buying a home here one day.

I am in full support of HB 2409. One of the reasons why I am in support of this bill is because I hope to own a home in Oregon one day, and the fact that many homeowners associations (HOA) require homeowners to apply pesticides narrows my housing options in Oregon. This is because I have pets, specifically rabbits, and I need a home where I can take them outside to play where they can be safe from poisons. My rabbits like to go outside and hop around on the grass, and nibble on the grass, and my priority is making sure they have a safe place to do that. Thus, I will not even consider looking at a home to rent or buy that is part of an HOA for this reason alone. I don't want to invest my time and money in a home where I have to choose to either keep my pets indoors on a sunny day or to take them outside with the risk of them getting sick from pesticide exposure.

As it is right now, I have been unwilling to look at homes that are part of an HOA because I don't think it's fair to forcibly expose people and their pets to potentially harmful pesticides while at their own homes. People that are part of an HOA should have the option to opt-out of pesticide applications in favor of less toxic land management practices.

I would like to see this bill passed so that I can start looking at homes in Oregon where HOA memberships are mandatory. Please vote yes on House Bill 2409 and support Oregonians' right to choose what chemicals they, and their pets, are being exposed to.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

All my best,

Krystal Abrams