

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Rules On HB 4062-2

February 24, 2022

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Oregon Environmental Council supports HB 4062 as amended.

Amended HB 4062 will create a new license type for noncommercial pesticide applicators. Currently Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has three types of pesticide licenses: private, public and commercial. An entire group of pesticide applicators do not fit neatly into any of these categories, but are nonetheless required to be licensed in order to apply registered pesticides.

By creating a fourth license type, ODA will gather this group into a license type that can address specific contexts for licensing exams, trainings and education. This makes the licensing process more practical and less burdensome to those noncommercial applicators currently required to hold a commercial applicators license in order to perform their duties.

OEC's goal is to support ODA in providing oversight to pesticide applicators through accurate, applicable and practical licensing, training and educational programs. Creating this fourth class of pesticide applicator licenses will help achieve that goal.

OEC urges the committee to support HB 4062-2.