

Submitter: Richard Barnhart
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB426

I am writing in support of SB 426, the Toxic Free Schools Bill. Although the Healthy and Safe Schools Act and the Oregon Schools Integrated Pest Management law were designed to protect school children and staff from unnecessary pesticide exposure, it has been recently shown that many, if not most, schools are not in compliance. A system is needed to provide the supervision and support needed to make sure school children are protected from unnecessary exposure to pesticides. The Toxic Free Schools Act provides this.

Without this bill, a liability risk exists if a student or staff at a school is harmed by exposure to a pesticide, and it is found that the school did not follow procedures under current law. As I stated above, the Toxic Free Schools Bill provides the supervision and support needed to help schools be in compliance.

Thank you for considering this testimony.