

Submitter: Kathleen Boylan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB426

Feb 21, 2023

To: Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Weber and Members of the Senate
Committee on Education

I am writing in strong support of the Toxic Free Schools Bill. As a retired RN I am aware of the effects of acute and chronic exposure to pesticides. Children are more vulnerable to pesticide exposures. Even in small amounts, pesticide exposures put children at higher risk for adverse health effects. Pesticides are associated with Asthma, learning disabilities and chronic illness. Schools should be a toxic free place that is safe for children to learn and play.

Senate bill 426 provides much needed updates to the 2009 unfunded Integrated Pesticide Management law and the 2017 Healthy and Safe Schools act. The 2009 bill failed to include the Oregon Department of Education and children's health experts. SB 426 will include systems that will ensure that agencies responsible for children's education and children's health are stakeholders in the decision process for using pesticides on school grounds.

SB 426 will fund the creation of a pesticides tracking system on school grounds and importantly require transition to less toxic alternatives; And direct governing bodies of schools to implement record keeping and transparent reporting requirements.

The Portland Raging Grannies Urge your support of SB 526 for the health and well being of our children and grandchildren.

Thank you
Kathleen Boylan