

Toxic Free Schools

My name is Rose Langaard and I am a freshman student. I live with my family in Florence. I'm excited to write to support SB 426 for Toxic Free Schools.

SB 426 is a bill that will make schools a healthier and safer learning environment. Pesticides and other harmful toxins can be harmful to anyone, but it is especially dangerous for children. They are still developing so kids are at higher risk for health issues like asthma or learning disabilities. Adults and children in low-income communities are already exposed to chemicals and harmful substances. This is why schools need to be pesticide free to make them a safer environment for students and staff.

Some schools don't have the resources to reduce pesticide use, or they don't have the appropriate recordkeeping. With this bill, the legislature will provide schools with the resources to reduce pesticide use and schools can then modernize pesticide recordkeeping to increase transparency. This will make more equity for pest management support. I like that this bill will make a more diverse stakeholder advisory committee including people who are more involved with children's education and health.