

Submitter: Susan Lea Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2684

Team Earth of First Congregational UCC, Salem Oregon, supports this bill. The personal experience of a member who lives next to Sumpter elementary school underscores the critical need for this legislation.

Last year, this member had her organic garden contaminated by pesticides and herbicides sprayed by school district employees at Sumpter. Although the information was extremely difficult to track down, she found out that the school district uses extremely toxic chemicals on school grounds, including glyphosate.

Ironically, as a volunteer science teacher at Sumpter, I once demonstrated to our fourth graders the acutely toxic effects of glyphosate on fish. Within a minute of exposure to a single drop, the goldfish in the fishbowl died. While the horror that we all felt taught me not to repeat that demonstration, the use of glyphosate and other toxic chemicals is inappropriate given the likelihood that they will contaminated storm water and creeks in the area, in addition to contaminating adjacent gardens.

Please support HB 2684.