



LISA FRAGALA
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HOUSE DISTRICT 8
FROM THE WILLAMETTE RIVER TO SPENCER BUTTE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 27, 2025

RE: Support for House Bill 2679 in the House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing to express my support for **House Bill 2679**, which puts limits on the use of pesticides that have some neonicotinoids in them and would prohibit the application of these pesticides in residential landscapes. This pragmatic approach has been taken by 12 other states including California and Washington States.

Bees are a cornerstone species and are tragically disappearing at alarming rates. Nearly 40% of honeybees were lost in the last year alone and, one in four wild bee species are at risk of extinction. Countless crops in Oregon depend on bee pollination. The loss of these significant pollinators jeopardizes ecosystems, our agricultural industry, and Oregon's food resiliency.

Restricting the everyday consumer use of neonicotinoids by adding them to the state's "restricted use" pesticide list is one immediate way to address the collapse of bee populations. House Bill 2679 would ensure that only licensed pesticide applicators would be able to use neonics. This will help to reduce the prevalence of these chemicals in backyards, gardens, and other areas bees forage.

I'm proud of the fact that the city of Eugene, which contains the majority of my district, was the first city in the nation to ban neonics. The state of Oregon has also led in efforts to protect pollinators by creating programs like the Oregon Bee Project. By passing House Bill 2679 we have the opportunity to build on the work that has already been done in Oregon to protect important pollinators, such as bees.

Thank you for your consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Fragala

Representative Lisa Fragala
House District 8

