

Submitter: Joni Zimmerman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2679

I strongly support this bill.

I believe that chemical pesticides and herbicides should never be applied to anything in our environment unless it is a dire emergency with proven benefits outweighing known and unknown risks. I don't understand why farmers are allowed to spray poison on plants and then sell the plants as "food" to the unsuspecting public, or feed them to animals who will then be sold as "food".

This bill, however, is a small step in the right direction and should definitely be passed.

It is an absolute no brainer that humans should not be allowed to use bee-killing chemicals just to make their garden look, by some bizarre standards, more attractive. (To me, a garden without weeds and bugs and bees and butterflies and birds is hideous. A garden that is overgrown, with lots of life and places for wild things to hide and plants that people and animals can eat without getting sick is what I find attractive. I am cautious about even setting foot in someone's yard where there are no "weeds" in the lawn.)

The European Union, Canada, Maine, New Jersey, California and several other states have already banned or restricted these pesticides for non-agricultural uses.

I would like to see their use banned or greatly restricted for agricultural purposes as well.

Thank you.