

Submitter: Emily Heilbrun

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2679

Subject: Support for HB 2679 – Protecting Pollinators and Wildlife

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Emily Heilbrun and I am writing in strong support of House Bill 2679 because it is a critical step toward protecting Oregon's pollinators, water quality, and public health from toxic neonicotinoid pesticides.

I have lived in Oregon for more than 40 years and have a good-sized garden. I know the value of pollinators and have assisted friends who were beekeepers. Neonicotinoids have played a huge role in the decline of pollinators in our community and elsewhere. These pesticides impairs pollinators' ability to forage, reproduce, and navigate, putting Oregon's food systems and ecosystems at risk. HB 2679 can help protect these essential species by restricting the unnecessary use of neonicotinoids in residential areas.

Oregon must join the other states that have already taken steps to limit access to residential neonicotinoid use. It is of utmost importance that these dangerous pesticides be kept out of the hands of untrained users, and removed from retail sales.

I urge you to support HB 2679 to safeguard pollinators, protect public health, and reduce pesticide contamination in Oregon's environment.

Sincerely,  
Emily Heilbrun  
Eugene, OR