

Submitter: Shauna McKain-Storey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2679

Please, please act now to restrict neonicotinoids! They have been shown to be systemic pesticides that cause widespread environmental and economic damage threatening Oregon bee populations and much more. They stay for a long time in the environment, accumulating in soils and leaching into surface waters, where they endanger the survival of freshwater fish and the invertebrates they feed on, as well as threatening birds, butterflies, and other pollinators. I have read that 12 other states have already taken action to restrict the use of neonicotinoid pesticides to licensed applicators only and to remove them from consumer-oriented grocery, garden and hardware stores. Many states also adopted bans on residential and commercial properties. HB 2679 would similarly restrict neonicotinoid pesticides from consumers' purchase, require an Oregon pesticide applicator license to purchase and apply them, and ban their use on residential properties. Oregon already restricts over 400 dangerous pesticides from general consumer purchase and use. Neonicotinoids should also be listed for restriction. Please protect essential species by supporting this bill. Thank you.