

## **In support of HB 2409**

This Bill is reasonable and fair, and so I believe it should be passed.

Pesticides and herbicides are toxic chemicals that are killing beneficial insects, birds, fish, other wildlife, while concurrently causing illness and neurological damage to human beings.

Therefore, any homeowner should have the free will to decide whether or not they want to apply such poisons to their landscape. There are thousands of studies out now, about the health hazards to beneficial insects like pollinators, but to also fish, wildlife, pets, and people. The science is very clear, and has been for decades now. The lawsuits against Monsanto's Round Up for instance, number in the thousands. People are getting sick and dying, especially the applicators, but also people exposed repeatedly, to pesticides and herbicides.

This ability to decide about what goes onto someone's own landscape that they purchased with hard-earned money should of course also apply to people who live in a planned community or a Home Owners Associations with rules and covenants. Most of these rules are reasonable ones that every member adheres to, like keeping yards neat and clean. Home owners in these places should certainly have the ability to decline toxic pesticide applications to their yards, and especially if they have pets or children that play on that landscape. Anyone that wants a healthy and safe yard should be allowed to have it, and therefore also need to agree to keep their yards looking neat and clean by safer methods that don't involve dangerous chemicals. Currently, there are many safe and healthy yardcare products and technologies for sale that control weeds very well, not to mention utilizing good old fashioned elbow grease to simply pull unwanted weeds out of the ground, which is highly effective!

**Restricting their ability to control their own backyards seems pretty unconstitutional, so Please pass HB 2409.**

Sincerely,  
Cara Cruickshank  
VP of Pollinator Project Rogue Valley