

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 30



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 25, 2021

Timothy G. Sekerak
Chief Clerk of the House
Oregon House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation for Senate Bill 5502

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I voted yes to support Senate Bill 5502, the budget bill for the Oregon Department of Agriculture. However, I would like to express my dismay that funding to study alternatives to Chlorpyrifos was not included in the final measure. In April 2021, a federal appeals court ruled that Chlorpyrifos must be banned, unless the EPA can determine safe uses for the chemical. Chlorpyrifos, a pesticide widely used to treat crops, has been linked to harmful health effects in people and neurological damage in children. Science overwhelmingly speaks to the harmful health impacts of Chlorpyrifos. My concern, however, comes when you ban one thing completely, then there is the possibility of it being replaced with something even more harmful. Additionally, since this product has been used by farmers for over 50 years, they will need to quickly figure out what to replace it with. The state of California had the foresight to include funding for a study to determine alternatives to the use of Chlorpyrifos, when they banned the pesticide from use. I had hoped the State of Oregon would have followed suit in Senate Bill 5502 to include similar funding that would especially help our small farmers through this transition.

Sincerely,

Janeen Sollman
State Representative-House District 30

