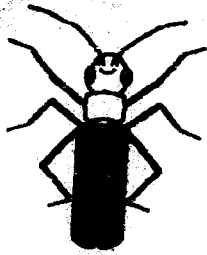


6.i. Support Letters – Members/State Electeds

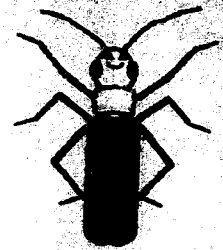
No relevant documents found

6.ii. Support Letters – Organizations/Local Gov't



B.U.G.S.
Biological Urban Gardening Services
The Voice Of Ecological Urban Horticulture

P. O. Box 76
Citrus Heights, CA. 95611-0076
(916) 726-5377
E-Mail: bugsirc@cwiia.com



September 5, 2000

The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

ATTN: Ms. Linda Adams

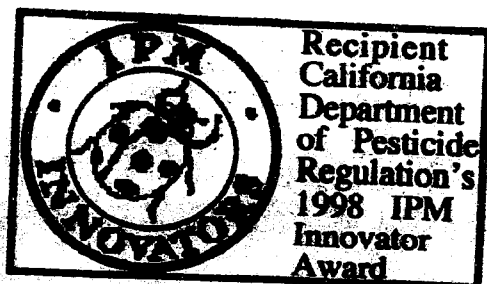
Dear Governor Davis,

I am writing you as a resident of California, as a California licensed pesticide applicator, as Executive Director of Biological Urban Gardening Services (BUGS), on behalf of our membership which includes other licensed pesticides applicators, and as a recipient of California's Department of Pesticide Regulations 1998 "Integrated Pest Management Innovator Award" (with Living Resources Company) requesting that you strongly support the Healthy Schools Act of 2000 (AB 2260). Our children deserve a safe and healthy place to learn and parents have the right to know what pesticides are used at their children's schools.

As a pest control operator with a valid California pesticide applicators license, I am very familiar with these issues, and I would like to explain why I support this legislation and urge you to do the same.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency recently stated, "Children are at a greater risk for some pesticides for a number of reasons. Children's internal organs are still developing and maturing and their enzymatic, metabolic, and immune systems may provide less natural protection than those of an adult. There are "critical periods" in human development when exposure to a toxin can permanently alter the way an individual's biological system operates."

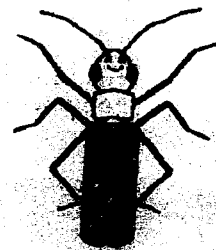
EPA's health safety testing is performed on 170 pound adult males, not children. They are also based on the typical activities of adult males. Pesticides are applied to walls, floors, playgrounds, lawns and other similar locations. Adult males don't touch these areas and then regularly placing their contaminated hands in their mouths. Children crawl over the treated areas, may eat treated grass, smell treated flowers, place their hands that came in direct contact with treated surfaces in their mouths. This dramatically increasing their exposure to the pesticides dramatically increasing their risk, potentially beyond what would be considered "significant" by current EPA standards.



Recipient
California
Department
of Pesticide
Regulation's
1998 IPM
Innovator
Award



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What is not a significant risk to an adult male might be a very real risk to a child. As a result: making pesticide applications, even following label directions, may not be safe for children.

As a result of their findings, US EPA is currently re-evaluating their health and safety data as it applies to pesticide exposure to children. Thirty states have already taken action to provide protective action to address pesticide use in, around or near their schools. This includes, a mixture of pesticide restrictions, parental notification, and posting of signs before certain pesticides are used.

Currently pesticides are used on school grounds without the knowledge or consent of parents. This is particularly disturbing since children are uniquely susceptible to the harmful effects of pesticides, due to their developing bodies and behavior. This bill would inform parents what pesticides might be applied to their children's schools. It also allows those parents with special concerns to be put on a registry so they can be informed when pesticide applications will be made. The bill also provides posting so that children and parents will know before the child enters a treated area that pesticides are to be or were applied.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency stated that, posting is particularly important in areas where children may be present, because their behavior predisposes them to much higher levels of post-application exposure than adults. The guidance applies to schools, parks, cemeteries and lawns around commercial facilities.

Prior notification and posting is currently working in Arizona, Maryland, Michigan and Texas. It is already being voluntarily used in California by some pest control operators.

Prior notification will allow those concerned individuals to avoid or reduce they pesticide exposure. This could include, avoiding playing on recently treated playgrounds, closing windows during and following pesticide applications, and instructing children not to touch treated areas.

Parents, teachers and school staff have the RIGHT TO KNOW when they or their children will be exposed to toxic materials at school.

Schools can save money adopting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs. As a licensed pest control operator, I can tell you that my pest control expenses following IPM practices are much less than my competition that does not use IPM. In 1997 the City of Santa Monica adopted IPM and cut their pest control costs by 40% in just the first year. A survey of 121 Pennsylvania school districts that practice IPM spent the same or less after switching from conventional practices.

Integrated Pest Management works. It is endorsed by the University of California and California EPA's Department of Pesticide Regulation. Switching to IPM will not result in pest and health problems as suggested by some of those opposing this bill!

Pesticide use in our schools is a serious problem. Eighty seven percent of our schools use dangerous pesticides (identified by government agencies as suspected carcinogen, nerve toxins or chemicals that may cause birth defects or impaired growth and development) according to a CALPIRG report. Twenty percent reported using pesticides that have been identified as probable human carcinogens.

AB 2260 would provide parents, students, and staff information about pesticide use in their schools, and provide information and training to schools about how to implement least toxic pest control, an approach that places children's health first.

I look forward to hearing that you signed this important bill. For our children's sake I urge you to sign AB 2260.

Respectfully,
Steven M. Zien *Steven M. Zien*
PO Box 76, Citrus Heights, CA 95611
916/726-5377
bugslrc@cwia.com

ck. 718

BREAST CANCER ACTION

September 6, 2000

The Honorable Gray Davis
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Healthy Schools Act, AB 2260- SUPPORT

Dear Governor Davis,

On behalf of Breast Cancer Action and our over 6,000 members in California, I write to urge you to sign into law AB 2260, the Healthy Schools Act of 2000. Please show your commitment to improving the health of California's school children and protecting Californians from harmful pesticide exposure.

Breast Cancer Action is the oldest and largest grassroots breast cancer education and advocacy organization in California. Our mission is to carry the voices of those affected by breast cancer to inspire and compel the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic. We are committed not only to finding a cure for the most common cancer in women, but also to true prevention of the disease.

The Healthy Schools Act responds to CALPIRG research which shows that 87% of school districts report using one or more hazardous pesticides, and 20% report using known or probable human carcinogens. Scientific evidence is mounting that environmental toxins are contributing to the cancer epidemic that directly affects one in three Americans and touches all of our lives. Over 20,000 Californians are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, and nearly 4,400 die from the disease. In order to end this epidemic, we must eradicate those elements that we know or suspect to be causing cancer. AB 2260 will make important strides in that direction.

AB 2260 will provide strong pre-notification to parents, teachers and students about what pesticides may be used on school grounds; a registry for notification throughout the school year; postings at all treated entry points; and training and materials on least toxic integrated pest management.

Breast Cancer Action strongly urges you to sign AB 2260, and take a leadership role in protecting California's future generations.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Brenner
Executive Director



CALIFORNIA
NURSES
ASSOCIATION

Shaping Tomorrow's Health Care
www.calnurses.org

September 15, 2000

The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE RE: AB 2260 (Shelley) – SUPPORT

Dear Governor Davis:

The California Nurses Association wishes to inform you of our support for AB 2260, regarding pest management in schools.

Nurses are keenly aware of the importance of raising and educating our children in a healthy environment, where they are safe from exposure to dangerous environmental contaminants. We support the approach taken in AB 2260, which will both ensure that parents get the information they need with regard to pest control practices at their children's schools, and will encourage schools to use least toxic pest management practices.

For these reasons, CNA urges your signature.

Sincerely,

Richard Holober
Political Director

☐ CNA OAKLAND
HEADQUARTERS
2000 Franklin St, Ste 300
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 273-2200
Fax: (510) 663-1625

☐ CNA SACRAMENTO
1107 9th Street, Ste 900
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 446-5021
Fax: (916) 446-6319

☐ CNA SAN JOSE
101 Race Street
San Jose, CA 95126
(408) 920-0290
Fax: (408) 920-0362

☐ CNA FRESNO
125 E. Barstow, Ste 112
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 248-1948
Fax: (559) 248-1940

☐ CNA SANTA MONICA
425 West Broadway, Ste 111
Glendale, CA 91204
(818) 240-1900
Fax: (818) 240-8336

☐ CNA SAN DIEGO
3160 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108
(619) 516-4917
Fax: (619) 516-4922

PRICE

CONSULTING

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

September 8, 2000

The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

ATTN: Linda Adams

RE: AB 2260 (Shelley) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Davis:

Californians for Pesticide Reform (CPR), a coalition of more than 100 environmental and public health organizations across the state, respectfully requests that you sign AB 2260 into law. As the sponsor of AB 2260, CPR has worked for three years in the legislative arena to enact state law that will give parents and school administrators the tools they need to reduce pesticide use in schools while providing cost-effective pest control. After working extensively with your staff and regulatory agencies over the past year, CPR now joins doctors, teachers, classified school personnel, school boards, as well as environmental and public health advocates, in urging your support for this important measure.

Last year, you vetoed the previous version of this measure, AB 1207 (Shelley), and cited several specific reasons for your action. For example, you expressed concern about "overly prescriptive requirements" that would have forced school districts "to notify parents of applications in schools of such commonly used household insecticides as Raid and Combat" or each time Round-up was applied to control weeds. You also cited costs to the Department of Pesticide Regulation of \$1.2 million to \$2.7 million annually, and reimbursable state mandated costs "estimated in the tens of millions of dollars...."

CPR took your criticisms to heart. The bill before you now fully responds to your veto message, most importantly by dropping the requirement that parents and teachers be notified each time a pesticide is applied on school grounds. Instead, AB 2260 now requires only that parents be notified once a year, at the beginning of the school year, of those pesticides the school district expects to apply during the year (EdC 17612). We also incorporated the notice into existing information that schools already are required to send parents at the beginning of each year, eliminating the need for a separate notice.

This single change eliminates the concern that schools will have to send out notices to parents each time Raid, Combat, Round-up, or any other pesticide is used. Under AB 2260 there are only two narrow circumstances when a school would send out notices other than the annual notice: 1) when a school subsequently chooses to use a pesticide not in the annual notice and 2) if a parent affirmatively requests to be notified when pesticides are applied. Very few parents will use this "parent registry" tool, but for those whose children have respiratory or other medical conditions, it is important that they have access to such information. We also note that the registry is the preferred approach advocated nationwide by the pesticide industry.

1029 K Street, Suite 38 • Sacramento, CA 95814 • Tel (916) 448-1015 • Fax (916) 448-7176

Printed on recycled paper

The Honorable Gray Davis
September 8, 2000
Page 2

As introduced, AB 2260 also required parents to be notified each time particularly dangerous pesticides were applied. Initially these included pesticides known to cause cancer or birth defects, and Category I acute toxin pesticides. We then amended the provision to apply only to pesticides determined by the Department of Pesticide Regulation to be restricted materials or acute toxins. Finally, we deleted the provision altogether, further reducing the cost of the bill's notice requirement. CPR believes the notice requirement in AB 2260 still meets the minimum needs of parents to be notified of pesticides used at their schools, and does so in a way that almost totally eliminates the cost that concerned you last year. Furthermore, it responds directly to your concerns about overly prescriptive requirements.

Other amendments taken to AB 2260 addressed concerns raised by DPR and other interests. For example, DPR and the Pest Control Operators of California raised concerns about the ability of commercial applicators to provide required information regarding pesticides they applied at schools. We worked with DPR and PCOC on amendments (FAC 13186) that satisfied both parties and removed the opposition of the Pest Control Operators. Similarly, we worked closely with the Chemical Specialty Manufacturers Association, which manufacture home use pesticides, to address their concerns. As a result CSMA and Clorox are now neutral on the bill. The California School Boards Association asked that we clarify language in FAC 13183 regarding the role of school districts versus individual schools in implementing Integrated Pest Management. We did so, and we are proud to note that CSBA now supports AB 2260. Finally, in the last two weeks of session, the California Agricultural Teachers Association first notified Assemblyman Shelley of unintended impacts the bill could have on their programs. We quickly amended the bill (EdC 17612(f)) to provide a needed exemption and CATA withdrew their opposition.

Compared to last year's bill, AB 2260 is much simpler and less costly. It contains a few simple provisions: annual notice to parents, as described above; posting when pesticides are applied on school grounds; record-keeping by schools; and the creation of a school Integrated Pest Management program at DPR to assist school districts that voluntarily choose to pursue IPM.

CPR wants to thank you for two actions you have taken that will contribute greatly to the effective implementation of AB 2260. First, your FY 2000-01 budget included \$600,000 for DPR to establish a school IPM program. This important funding has allowed DPR to get a running start and be better prepared to assist schools. While AB 2260 codifies DPR's school IPM program, its genesis clearly lies in your budget action. Second, AB 2260 has been amended to incorporate your desire to see DPR establish a web site dedicated specifically to better informing parents and the public about pesticides and the opportunities to reduce pesticide use. We wholeheartedly support this idea, and AB 2260's web site language (EdC 17612(a); FAC 13184) will ensure that the web site is useful not only to parents and the public, but also to school districts, who need ready access to simple, easy-to-understand information as they make their pest management decisions.

It is also important that we not overlook the reasons for AB 2260 in the first place. First, pesticides are heavily used at many schools: according to a 1997 survey of schools by CPR, 87% of responding schools in California reported using pesticides that have been identified by government agencies as known or likely carcinogens, nerve toxins, and/or chemicals that may cause birth defects and impaired growth and development. A follow-up survey of the 15 most

Honorable Gray Davis
September 8, 2000
Page 3

populous school districts, conducted earlier this year, found that not much has changed. The For example, chlorpyrifos (Dursban) is the second most commonly used pesticides in homes and schools, and 8 of the 13 responding districts use Dursban. Yet Dursban is hardly safe. In fact, it was banned in June by USEPA because it "poses an unacceptable risk to human health, even when used according to label directions." Dursban attacks the brain and nervous system. The risk is higher for children, whose nervous systems are still developing.

Second, cost-effective alternatives are available for school use. A number of school districts in California – including Los Angeles Unified and San Francisco Unified – already have adopted pest management policies that stress least toxic control of pests and the use of integrated pest management. In many cases pesticide use can be significantly reduced simply by monitoring for the presence of pests, caulking or otherwise blocking pest entry points, and improving the awareness of school staff to pesticide alternatives.

As is made explicitly clear throughout the bill, AB 2260 applies only to the school setting and does not apply to the agricultural use of pesticides in any way. CPR regrets the continuing opposition of the pesticide industry and certain agricultural organizations, especially in light of the many changes made since last year's bill and our consistent willingness to work with all parties until the final moments of the legislative session. We believe their concerns are misplaced and unfounded.

We are proud of the broad support AB 2260 has received this year, especially from all sectors of education, including the California School Boards Association, the California State PTA, the California Teachers Association, the California School Employees Association, and the Service Employees International Union. Other supporters include the California Medical Association, the Children's Health Environmental Coalition, Physicians for Social Responsibility, the Southern California Federation of Scientists, the California League of Conservation Voters, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Sierra Club, and the California Public Interest Research Group.

Finally, CPR would like to acknowledge, and express our thanks for, the cooperation and help we received from your personal staff as well as key staff at CalEPA, the Department of Pesticide Regulation, and the Department of Finance. Largely because of their assistance, we believe AB 2260 is a measure fully worthy of your support. We respectfully urge that you sign it into law.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you or your staff wish to discuss this measure further.

Sincerely,



PETE PRICE

Governmental Affairs Representative
Californians for Pesticide Reform

cc: Assemblyman Kevin Shelley
Secretary Winston Hickox
Mr. Paul Helliker

**STATE OFFICE**

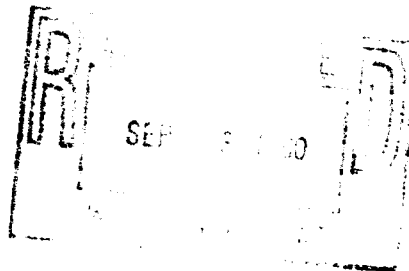
Los Angeles
11865 Venice Blvd. #408
Los Angeles, CA 90066
(310) 397-3404
(310) 391-0053 Fax
<http://www.pirg.org/pirg/>

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

Sacramento
928 J St. #523
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 448-4516
(916) 448-4560 Fax

September 8, 2000

The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA FACSIMILE and U.S. POST



Dear Governor Davis:

The California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG) is a statewide consumer, environmental and good government organization.

On behalf of CALPIRG, I am writing to thank you and your staff, especially Linda Adams, for your help in negotiating the Healthy Schools Act of 2000, AB 2260, through the legislature. After years of work on this important children's health issue, we are very excited to have engaged in a collaborative effort with your office to produce a common sense bill that helps address the issue of pesticides in schools.

I look forward to working with you in the future on other issues of importance to the public interest. Should you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at 415.292.1487 or teriolle@calpirg.org.

Sincerely,

Teresa M. Olle
Toxics Policy Advocate
Staff Attorney

Berkeley
2034 Blake St. #9
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 844-3454

San Diego
3960 Park Blvd. Ste A
San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 297-5512

San Francisco
450 Geary St. #500
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 292-1487
(415) 292-1497 Fax

Santa Cruz
149 C Josephine St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 459-0553

Santa Barbara
1129 State St. #10-B
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 564-1207
(805) 965-8839 Fax

Consumers Union

Publisher of Consumer Reports

August 24, 2000

Governor Gray Davis
State Capitol
First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Davis:

Consumers Union, nonprofit publisher of *Consumer Reports* magazine, urges you to sign the Healthy Schools Act of 2000 into California law if it gets to your desk in the near future. We have wholeheartedly supported (Kevin Shelley) as it has made its way toward you through both houses of the Legislature. As was the case last year, your signature is crucial to the implementation of least-toxic integrated pest management systems in California's schools, as well as to the notification of parents and staff to the application of pesticides that could negatively impact the health and well-being of our school children.

Sad to say, our children face danger in their schools. The news has been filled over the last couple of years with tragic and dramatic accounts of some of those dangers. Though less heralded and more insidious, environmental hazards in the schools also put children at avoidable peril.

Children are particularly sensitive to pesticides because their minds and bodies are still evolving. They also have a greater exposure to pesticides because they eat more food—especially fresh fruits and vegetables—in relation to their body weight than adults do. Furthermore, kids have a higher respiratory rate so they inhale pesticides in the air at a faster rate than adults.

From 1985 to 1992, the Environmental Protection Agency found at least 2,766 pesticide poisoning incidents in schools, nationally. Both the EPA and the National Parent Teacher Association support the use of integrated pest management programs in schools. These programs encourage using least-toxic alternatives to harmful pesticides and herbicides in order to protect the public health.

Parents and staff have a right to know if their children are being exposed to harmful pesticides. We urge you to sign The Healthy Schools Act of 2000 into law.

Sincerely,

Elisa Odabashian

Senior Program & Financial Manager
West Coast Regional Office

Cc: Assemblyman Kevin Shelley
California State Senate



September 7, 2000

Governor Gray Davis
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Networking
Council**

Warren Bell
Canadian Association
of Physicians for the
Environment

David Bennett
Canadian Labour Congress

Melito Cortés
Colectivo Ecologista
Jalisco

Amy Courtney
United Farm Workers

Jorge Arturo de León
Escuela de Medicina con
Aprendizaje Basado en
Problemas

Patricia Diaz-Romo
Huicholes y Plaguicidas

Neva Haiman
Northwest Coalition for
Alternatives to Pesticides

Reggie James
Consumers Union

Ellen Lynch
Pesticide Watch
Education Fund

Janet May
Toronto Environmental
Alliance

Angela Rickman
Sierra Club of Canada

Jane Rissler
Union of Concerned
Scientists

Chae Smith
Hawaii's Pesticide
Project

Gina Solomon
Natural Resources
Defense Council

Lori Ann Thrupp
PAN North America

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Francesca Vietor

Dear Governor Davis,

I am writing on behalf of the Pesticide Action Network to request your support for AB2260, the Healthy Schools Act of 2000. By signing this bill, you will do much to protect California parents' right to know about toxics in their children's environment and help to educate school staff about least-toxic alternatives for pest control.

Pesticides have been shown to cause serious health effects in humans, particularly children. Neurotoxic pesticides such as chlorpyrifos and diazinon (ingredients in many insecticides used in and around schools) damage the brain and fragile neural connections. Endocrine disrupting pesticides such as permethrin (an insecticide) and 2,4-D (an herbicide) cause damage to the developing reproductive system. Many pesticides are carcinogens, and the significant increase in childhood cancer rates over the last 20 years suggests that children's exposure to cancer-causing substances is increasing.

Application of pesticides in schools contributes to children's exposure to these toxic substances, posing an unacceptable and unnecessary health threat to California's children. School staff need help to transition into non-chemical methods of pest control that reduce or eliminate their use of toxic pesticides. AB2260 will provide this help and will also keep parents informed about what their children are being exposed to in their schools.

We sincerely hope you will take a leadership role in protecting the health of our future generations by signing this bill into law.

Respectfully,

Susan E. Kegley, Ph.D.
Staff Scientist/Program Coordinator

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recycled, non-halogenated paper

6.iii. Support Letters – Individuals

No relevant documents found