

BAN TOXIC PESTICIDES ACT 2019

Overview

The Ban Toxic Pesticides Act of 2019 proposes a ban on the use and stockpile of chlorpyrifos, a chemical used as a pesticide. This bill aims to deem chlorpyrifos a dietary risk to humans posed by residues of the pesticide chemical on food. Further, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall cancel the registration of all uses of chlorpyrifos and revoke any tolerance residue that results from its use in or on foods.



Why is this important for California?

- In 2016, CA used nearly one million pounds of chlorpyrifos on common foods, such as almonds, grapes, and oranges.
- A study by UC Berkeley shows that prenatal exposure to chlorpyrifos is associated with poorer intellectual development in 7-year old kids who live in CA's agricultural communities.
- The Department of Public Health named chlorpyrifos among the top 10 pesticides of concern most commonly used within ¼ mile of the state's schools.

Background

- Chlorpyrifos was banned in 2000 for most home and indoor uses, due to concern that the chemical causes development disabilities in children.
- In 2007, several environmental organizations petitioned to ban chlorpyrifos for other industrial and agriculture uses, but the EPA denied the petition in 2017.
- In California (CA), chlorpyrifos is classified as a restricted material. Effective April, 2019, it will also be classified as a toxic air contaminant.

What Congressman Peters can do

- Sign on to support H.R. 230.
- Promote regulation of toxic pesticide use near schools and child day care centers.

H.R. 230, 116th Congress (2019-2020):

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References

- Bouchard et al. (2011). Prenatal Exposure to Organophosphate Pesticides and IQ in 7-Year-Old Children. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1289/ehp.1003185>
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- Pesticide Action Network. (N.D.). Chlorpyrifos. Retrieved from <http://www.panna.org/resources/chlorpyrifos-facts>