

YOUR LETTERHEAD HERE

Senator Mark Leno
State Capitol, Room 4061
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 445-4722

Re: Support for SB 759

Dear Senator Leno:

I am writing on behalf of **NAME OF YOUR GROUP** in support of Senate Bill 759. Our organization strongly supports this bill's goal of supplying health care providers with timely access to complete lists of all the ingredients in aerial pesticides, including "inert" ingredients.

We applaud the bill's effort require that "inert" pesticide ingredients, many of which pose serious health and environmental risks, are disclosed to the health care providers and the public, before being applied aerially by a state contractor, including emergency health care responders, school nurses, and local health departments.

Federal regulations only require pesticide manufacturers to disclose those chemicals in their products that are classified as "active" ingredients. Manufacturers routinely claim that the identity of the other ingredients in their pesticides is confidential, leaving health care professionals treating people exposed to the product without the information they need. In some cases, the identity of up to 99% of the entire pesticide product is not available.

As the U.S. EPA itself has pointed out, "many consumers have a misleading impression of the term 'inert ingredient,' believing it to mean water or other harmless ingredients", when in fact the compound "may have biological activity of its own, it may be toxic to humans, and it may be chemically active". Recent research has shown that so-called "inert" ingredients may increase the toxicity of pesticides to developing nervous systems, cause genetic damage, and disrupt the normal function of hormonal systems.

Access to pesticide information is critical. By providing information to health care professionals, we are creating a more informed public and a medical community that is better able to diagnose and treat patients.

We applaud and thank you for your efforts to provide information to the public and health care professionals in the times that matter most.

Sincerely,

LETTERS MUST HAVE A SIGNATURE TO BE COUNTED AS OFFICIAL SUPPORT FOR BILLS

Cc: Pesticide Watch, (916) 448-4560 (FAX)