



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2763		DATE: 3/14/2024	
COMMITTEE: Agriculture Policy			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:43 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in Support of this Bill and its intension. But the State has to cooperate and provide information that may go into the determination of Warning Labels for Pesticides by the Federal Government, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Agriculture and Department of Public Health.



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INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2024 12:12 AM
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I am in Support of this Bill. Why recreate the wheel and a duplication of Staff-time, effort and cost.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BEN TRAVLOS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-1400	
REPRESENTING: MO FARM BUREAU		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 701 S. COUNTRY CLUB DR.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: BILL REEVES		PHONE NUMBER: 314-807-0974
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BAYER CORP SCIENCE		TITLE: DR
ADDRESS: 700 CHESTERFIELD PKWY		
CITY: CHESTERFIELD		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63147
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BRENT HEMPHILL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-418-7616
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI PORK ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: meagan@brenthemphill.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 10:59 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN LEHMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-4181	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MO CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 3118 EMERALD LN			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CATHERINE HANAWAY		PHONE NUMBER: 314-249-5829	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HUSCH BLACKWELL REPRESENTING BAYER		TITLE: CHAIR-PARTNER	
ADDRESS: 8001 FORSYTH AVE. SUITE 1500			
CITY: CLAYTON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63105
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JASON WEIRICH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-823-2703	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MFA INC		TITLE: EVP OPERATIONS	
ADDRESS: 201 RAY YOUNG DR			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65202
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KARA CORCHES		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-3511	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 428 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KELLY GILLESPIE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-690-9267	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI BIOTECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 148			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: kelly@mobio.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 9:29 AM	

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March 7, 2024
The Honorable Mike Haffner, Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture Policy
Missouri House of Representatives
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Dear Chairman Haffner,
The Missouri Biotechnology Association respectfully expresses our strongest support for your committee's consideration of HB 2763, sponsored by Rep. Dane Diehl. We'd like to focus your attention on the following points:

- Round-up ready seed technologies, developed over fifty years ago, in many ways are the most important novel biotechnology research development that has occurred across the globe, and its Monsanto founders were Missouri-based. This discovery transformed plant sciences and modern agriculture practices. Farmers enjoy greater yields, use less chemical inputs, soil and root health is encouraged from the benefits of reduced soil tillage, all while maintaining the strongest safety profile for consumers, when glyphosate is used as directed.
- MOBIO serves as an important industry and private market linkage to the State of Missouri's economic development strategies. We ask that you, as state representatives, listen carefully when we amplify that Missouri only has so many world-class premier market advantages. Plant sciences is one of our absolute real winners as a state, and the explosion of plant sciences research is poised to continue to bring the necessary edge to American farmers.
- HB 2763 recognizes the importance of a national, science-based regulatory approach. Farmers fully respect the label, and our state should never lower itself to creating consumer scare tactics in labeling of any technology or process that impacts our nation's food supply. Certain fringe social media influencers are always trying to confuse consumers for their own monetary benefit, just as we saw last legislative session as promising technologies for bovine vaccines were at risk of a state-sanctioned scare tactic.
- HB 2763 sends a critical value message and true legislative clarity on how we market Missouri as a welcoming ag-tech and plant sciences ecosystem, where peer-reviewed foundational sound science is prioritized.
- The ag-tech workforce itself consists of more than 460,000 Missourians, a fact presented by The Missouri Partnership. This legislation is important to the one company still domestically producing this product, but it is also vitally important to this vast sector. Coastal trial lawyer tactics and advertising are already making our nation's manufacturing economy weaker, we should put a stop before they harm agriculture any further. All citizens desire that products in our food supply chain are regulated appropriately for safety and efficacy claims that can be scientifically evaluated and/or validated. The USDA and the EPA are considered the world's gold standards for their regulatory evaluations. Collectively, we should be united on strengthening the scientific depth and expertise at these important agencies. The United States Department of Agriculture announced in 2019 it was moving two of its key agencies' headquarters to Kansas City, Missouri. USDA's Economic Research Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's headquarters located at 805 Pennsylvania Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri. More than 500 new jobs shifted from the nation's capital to the heartland. HB 2763 is the type of common sense policy enactment that reaffirms then President

Trump's decision to relocate these federal ag employees to our state. At a minimum, passage will be seen as having a thoughtful understanding of the appropriate roles and interactions between state and federal governmental oversight. Thank you for allowing us to share our viewpoints on HB 2763. Respectfully, Kelly Gillespie Executive Director



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RANDALL RODGERS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: RAY MCCARTY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2246	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI		TITLE: PRESIDENT/CEO	
ADDRESS: 3234 W TRUMAN BLVD			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rmccarty@aimo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/6/2024 4:52 PM	
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Associated Industries of Missouri believes the EPA required labeling is all that should be required.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: RAY MCCARTY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2246
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI		TITLE: PRESIDENT/CEO
ADDRESS: 3234 W TRUMAN BLVD		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rmccarty@aimo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 7:32 PM

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Associated Industries of Missouri was one of several plaintiffs in National Association of Wheat Growers vs. California. We argued the Prop 65 notice requirement to place a notice on glyphosate was not right because glyphosate had been not been found to be carcinogenic by any of multiple studies performed by the EPA and others. Only one study performed by the IARC opined that glyphosate was possibly carcinogenic. This international group's findings were the only study to make such a statement. Ultimately, the courts agreed and issued a permanent injunction against the State of California blocking the labeling requirement. We support this bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD J NORRIS, PHD		PHONE NUMBER: 573-715-1919	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI BIOTECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION		TITLE: DIRECTOR, LIFE SCIENCES WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 148			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: richard@mobio.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/6/2024 10:31 AM	
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HB 2763 recognizes the importance of a national, science-based regulatory approach. Farmers fully respect the label, and our state should never lower itself to creating consumer scare tactics in labeling of any technology or process that impacts our nation's food supply.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT SWAIN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-230-2121
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 104 CLAY		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65203
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON COOPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-890-1432	
REPRESENTING: MO CATTLEMANS ASC		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 208 MADISON STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SHELBY J NEILL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: AMY GUNN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-241-2929	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF TRIAL ATTORNEYS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE: MO	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DANA RIPPER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dana.ripper@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 6:24 AM
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I do not believe that the Missouri legislature should be considering bills designed to shield corporations from accountability for their potentially harmful products. It is not legislation written for the interests of Missourians. Also, it could have far-reaching effects well beyond just the current "issue" of Bayer and their glyphosate lawsuits.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ETHAN DUKE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JAY DEVINENI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MEDICAL STUDENTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: COLUMBIA	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65201
EMAIL: jrdg77@health.missouri.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 1:39 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am testifying in opposition to HB 2763 on behalf of Medical Students for a Sustainable Future, a national organization with a local chapter at the University of Missouri that promotes climate-smart advocacy and health care. Our main concern with this bill is that there are inherent medical concerns with certain pesticides (particularly glyphosate), and products that have inherent medical concerns really require a "duty to warn" the public on the part of the manufacturer. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classifies glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans," and epidemiological studies have linked glyphosate exposure to non-Hodgkin lymphoma. While the evidence behind this connection is still being studied, there is sufficient evidence to raise concerns about the safety of this product. Therefore, manufacturers of this product should be required to include warning labels outlining this safety concern or otherwise accept the possibility of lawsuits from individuals who suffer adverse effects from exposure to this product. This bill would exempt manufacturers from the possibility of lawsuits even without the addition of warning labels, as long as the product's label is consistent with the EPA's carcinogenicity classification for the pesticide. However, the EPA's carcinogenicity classification for glyphosate (unlikely human carcinogen) is at odds with IARC's classification, which is based on a thorough review of available evidence. This discrepancy suggests that the safety profile of glyphosate is still unclear, but when one of the world's leading organizations on carcinogenicity classification says that it is a probable human carcinogen, we should not be loosening standards or exempting manufacturers from compensating consumers when they get cancer.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kortniehuddleston@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2024 7:50 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed bill regarding pesticide labeling requirements. This bill, if passed, would undermine critical protections for public health and safety. By allowing pesticides registered by certain federal agencies to bypass state-level warning label requirements, this bill puts the interests of pesticide manufacturers above the well-being of our communities. It hampers our right to know about the potential risks posed by these chemicals and disregards the mounting scientific evidence linking pesticide exposure to serious health issues. Furthermore, by preempting state laws, this bill undermines local governments' ability to enact measures tailored to their communities' specific needs and concerns. I urge you to reject this bill and prioritize the health and safety of our citizens over corporate interests.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LORI LYNN BRINKMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lori.brinkman.us@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 6:20 AM

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On Thursday March 14th (tomorrow!) the House Agricultural Policy Committee will hear proposed legislation that will minimize labeling requirements for agricultural chemicals and ultimately lessen legal accountability for manufacturers should their products cause harm - We need action to protect our environment and ultimately humanity. Save us from going down in history as the first society that wouldn't save itself because it wasn't cost effective (Kurt Vonnegut).



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARIE SEVIGNY-PENROD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tikki101@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 9:49 PM
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I oppose minimizing labeling requirements for agricultural chemicals. I am concerned that manufacturers will not be held accountable for the damage their products cause. We need more protections against these chemicals, not less! Our natural resources are being contaminated.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY CATHERINE STUBBS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cathy.stubbs@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 8:15 PM
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Legislation that will minimize labeling requirements for agricultural chemicals and ultimately lessen legal accountability for manufacturers should not be approved. The manufacturers create products that cause harm to the environment and us.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MATT CLEMENT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-691-4800	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE: ATTORNEY	
ADDRESS: 630 BOLIVAR ST			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 12:00 AM	
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELINDA HEMMELGARN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: foodsleuth@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 10:02 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Dear House Representatives, my name is Melinda Hemmelgarn. I'm a Registered Dietitian and radio host based in Columbia, MO. My work is focused on educating the public about food, health, and agriculture. I also serve on the Board of the national non-profit Beyond Pesticides because of my concerns about the effects of pesticides on public health. I am writing because I am not able to attend the public hearing and testify on 3/14/24 on HB 2763. However, I am asking you to please vote NO on this bill. I am asking you to vote no because I believe that an informed citizenry is essential to having true choice in the marketplace. We all deserve to know if there are any risks inherent in the products we use, and throughout my career as a food and nutrition educator, I have worked to inform the public to protect their health. Many products in the marketplace have warning labels. For example, there are warning labels on cigarette packages to let potential users know if they use the product, they are at higher risk for cancer. Similarly, if I choose to purchase a product to kill weeds in my yard, I'd like to know if that product might pose a risk to me, my children and pets. Likewise, if agricultural products pose potential harm to farmers and their families, I believe those products should be labeled as such. Simply having the single EPA approved label doesn't tell the whole story. As an example, there is a growing body of evidence that glyphosate exposure during pregnancy is significantly correlated with shortened pregnancies. Please see: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29519238/> and <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34339697/> The World Health Organization has also determined glyphosate to be a probable human carcinogen: <https://www.iarc.who.int/featured-news/media-centre-iarc-news-glyphosate/> However, there are many health concerns with a variety of pesticides, outside of glyphosate. Paraquat and Parkinson's disease, for example: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/oct/20/syngenta-weedkiller-pesticide-parkinsons-disease-paraquat-documents> Atrazine and endocrine disruption is another concern: <https://usrtk.org/pesticides/atrazine/> The manufacturers of these chemicals try to prevent risks from being known to protect their bottom line, but users deserve to know their risks. Please follow our state's motto: Let the welfare of the people be the supreme law, and let's help farmers protect their health. If they become ill from using a chemical with known risks, they deserve to be able to hold manufacturers accountable for their health care costs and personal losses. In the meantime, movement towards a more sustainable agriculture with less pesticide use benefits farmers, our environment and public health. Beyond Pesticides has an excellent data base showing documented harm from different pesticides, which may be helpful to you personally, and as you face a vote on HB 2763. <https://www.beyondpesticides.org/resources/pesticide-induced-diseases-database/search-the-database> Again, I ask you to please vote NO on HB 2763. I welcome your questions, and am happy to serve as a resource on this topic. Sincerely, Melinda Hemmelgarn, MS, RD412 Thilly Ave. Columbia, MO 65203573-449-3720573-864-5791 (mobile)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2763		DATE: 3/14/2024	
COMMITTEE: Agriculture Policy			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-727-0600	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: POLICY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVENUE, SUITE 100			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/6/2024 5:46 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

March 6, 2024 Representative Mike Haffner House Agriculture Policy Committee 201 W. Capitol Ave., Rm. 233-B Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 Dear Chairman Bean and Members of the Committee, Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. On behalf of MCE, I am testifying in opposition to House Bill 2763 and urge this committee to vote "no" on this bill. HB 2763 seeks to bar users of certain agricultural chemicals from bringing duty to warn claims against agricultural manufacturers should the users become harmed. Specifically, this bill is seeking to protect agricultural manufacturers from lawsuits for harm caused by exposure to their chemical products governed by EPA and/or the federal Fungicide, Insecticide and Rodenticide Act. Corporations that by the very nature of their business deal in dangerous products - not because the product has a defect or there was a manufacturing defect, but because the product itself is inherently dangerous to humans - are susceptible to litigation when their products are not sufficiently labeled warning the user of the health risks. Those who would bring claims against agriculture manufacturers have usually been farmers and pesticide applicators who were exposed to these chemicals and later diagnosed with diseases such as Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and other cancers. As you may know, there have been several cases filed against Bayer/Monsanto involving glyphosate and in many cases the harmed parties have received large jury awards and settlements to compensate them for their health harms. Agriculture chemical manufacturers are upset by all the lawsuits facing them and in retaliation, they have chosen to lead a nationwide effort to shield themselves from liability for harms caused. Missouri is only one of several states where this exact language has been filed. Does Missouri really want to be a state that says, "We in Missouri care more about the corporations that sell products in our state than the people who live here?" We at MCE hope not. Although sponsors of these bills claim that the pesticide label from EPA is a sufficient warning, users have been misled by advertising touting the products' safety. Supporters of this bill may also say that this bill would not restrict lawsuits against pesticide manufacturers for a number of claims, including product defects, drift or misapplication, or if the manufacturer fraudulently conceals known facts about the product. While this is true, the overwhelming majority of successful cases for pesticide injury lawsuits fall under "failure-to-warn" claims. We should not be taking away this important tool that our legal system provides to citizens harmed by using a product. If this committee supports SB 1416, it is making the statement that it is comfortable with rendering victims without effective legal recourse and releasing industry actors such as Bayer from billions of dollars in ongoing and future settlements. As of 2022, Bayer settled over 1,000 lawsuits paying out approximately \$11 billion and faces an additional 30,000 lawsuits pending. While I understand that companies like Bayer may be overwhelmed by the number of lawsuits they have settled and are still in, this is the cost of doing business when you manufacture a product that is inherently harmful and fail to provide

adequate warning to the users so that they can make an informed decision about whether to use your product. The farmers and chemical applicators in our state should not be stripped of their legal right to sue for failure to warn. For these reasons, MCE respectfully asks you to vote "no" on HB 2763. Thank you so much for your time. Sincerely, Melissa Vatterott, JDPolicy DirectorMissouri Coalition for the Environmentmvatterott@moenvironment.org (314) 727-0600, ext. 111



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2763		DATE: 3/14/2024	
COMMITTEE: Agriculture Policy			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BERG		PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-1011	
REPRESENTING: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER POLITICAL DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 432010			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63143
EMAIL: Michael.Berg@sierraclub.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/6/2024 10:54 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

House Bill 2763 seeks to bar users of certain agricultural chemicals from bringing “duty to warn” claims against agricultural manufacturers should the users become harmed. Specifically, this bill is seeking to protect agricultural manufacturers from lawsuits for harm caused by exposure to their chemical products governed by EPA and/or the federal Fungicide, Insecticide and Rodenticide Act. Corporations that by the very nature of their business deal in dangerous products - not because the product has a defect or there was a manufacturing defect, but because the product itself is inherently dangerous to humans - are susceptible to litigation when their products are not sufficiently labeled warning the user of the health risks. Those who would bring claims against agriculture manufacturers have usually been farmers and pesticide applicators who were exposed to these chemicals and later diagnosed with diseases such as Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma and other cancers. There have been several cases filed against Bayer involving glyphosate and in many cases the harmed parties have received large jury awards and settlements to compensate them for their health harms. As of 2022, Bayer settled over 1,000 lawsuits paying out approximately \$11 billion and faces an additional 30,000 lawsuits pending. Agriculture chemical manufacturers are upset by all the lawsuits facing them and in retaliation, they have chosen to lead a nationwide effort to shield themselves from liability for harms caused. Missouri is only one of several states where this exact language has been filed. This is attempt to shield large chemical companies from legal accountability for harms they may cause. Supporters of this bill may also say that this bill would not restrict lawsuits against pesticide manufacturers for a number of claims, including product defects, drift or misapplication, or if the manufacturer fraudulently conceals known facts about the product. While this is true, the overwhelming majority of successful cases for pesticide injury lawsuits fall under “failure-to-warn” claims. We should not be taking away this important tool that our legal system provides to citizens harmed by using a product. While companies like Bayer may feel overwhelmed by the number of lawsuits they have settled and are still in, this is the cost of doing business when you manufacture a product that is inherently harmful and fail to provide adequate warning to the users so that they can make an informed decision about whether to use your product. The farmers and chemical applicators in our state should not be stripped of their legal right to sue for failure to warn. Please oppose House Bill 2763.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2763		DATE: 3/14/2024	
COMMITTEE: Agriculture Policy			
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BERG		PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-1011	
REPRESENTING: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER POLITICAL DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 432010			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63143
EMAIL: Michael.Berg@sierraclub.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2024 10:36 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

HB 2763 seeks to bar users of certain agricultural chemicals from bringing “duty to warn” claims against agricultural manufacturers should the users become harmed. Specifically, this bill is seeking to protect agricultural manufacturers from lawsuits for harm caused by exposure to their chemical products governed by EPA and/or the federal Fungicide, Insecticide and Rodenticide Act. Corporations that by the very nature of their business deal in dangerous products - not because the product has a defect or there was a manufacturing defect, but because the product itself is inherently dangerous to humans - are susceptible to litigation when their products are not sufficiently labeled warning the user of the health risks. Those who would bring claims against agriculture manufacturers have usually been farmers and pesticide applicators who were exposed to these chemicals and later diagnosed with diseases such as Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma and other cancers. There have been several cases filed against Bayer involving glyphosate and in many cases the harmed parties have received large jury awards and settlements to compensate them for their health harms. As of 2022, Bayer settled over 1,000 lawsuits paying out approximately \$11 billion and faces an additional 30,000 lawsuits pending. Agriculture chemical manufacturers are upset by all the lawsuits facing them and in retaliation, they have chosen to lead a nationwide effort to shield themselves from liability for harms caused. Missouri is only one of several states where this exact language has been filed. This is attempt to shield large chemical companies from legal accountability for harms they may cause. Supporters of this bill may also say that this bill would not restrict lawsuits against pesticide manufacturers for a number of claims, including product defects, drift or misapplication, or if the manufacturer fraudulently conceals known facts about the product. While this is true, the overwhelming majority of successful cases for pesticide injury lawsuits fall under “failure-to-warn” claims. We should not be taking away this important tool that our legal system provides to citizens harmed by using a product. While companies like Bayer may feel overwhelmed by the number of lawsuits they have settled and are still in, this is the cost of doing business when you manufacture a product that is inherently harmful and fail to provide adequate warning to the users so that they can make an informed decision about whether to use your product. The farmers and chemical applicators in our state should not be stripped of their legal right to sue for failure to warn. Please oppose HB 2763.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mdreyer93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2024 7:49 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed bill regarding pesticide labeling requirements. This bill, if passed, would undermine critical protections for public health and safety. By allowing pesticides registered by certain federal agencies to bypass state-level warning label requirements, this bill puts the interests of pesticide manufacturers above the well-being of our communities. It hampers our right to know about the potential risks posed by these chemicals and disregards the mounting scientific evidence linking pesticide exposure to serious health issues. Furthermore, by preempting state laws, this bill undermines local governments' ability to enact measures tailored to their communities' specific needs and concerns. I urge you to reject this bill and prioritize the health and safety of our citizens over corporate interests.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVE OLSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: stvolns251@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 11:05 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I would like to add my opinion that the use of any legally allowed substance in the environment needs to be well researched and understood prior to approval for use. In many cases the wheel turns forward without the necessary considerations for public health and natural resource protection. It is foolish to allow for reduced oversight when there is strong evidence that some herbicides and pesticides are inherently dangerous under labeled usage and in the long run damaging to our environmental resources. Please consider the ramifications of reduced oversight and more liberal state regulation as pertains to pesticides. You would not choose a marginal approach if the health of your family or friends were at stake. Does not the soil, water, and air deserve the same platform from our elected officials. Thank you for allowing input from the public on this issue.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN FORQUER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: forquer.sue@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 8:09 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am opposed to HB2763



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BARRY STUART		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bistuart2@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/14/2024 9:02 PM
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I support labeling of pesticides generally. What concerns me is that products ie 24-D, Dicamba etc. are grouped under Agriculture products and there too much in all the lawn care products (Scotts- weed and feed etc.) Agriculture needs some pesticide usage or we won't have sufficient crop production. But, we don't need perfect yards- get some exercise and pull a few weeds!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT MCKELLAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mck9@swbell.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2024 8:39 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The bill text needs to be rewritten so as to have some discernible meaning. How can a pesticide "satisfy any requirement for a warning label?" Huh? Does that mean that it needs a warning label? Or that it doesn't? Or something else entirely?