
ENGROSSED SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8000

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Rasmussen, Morton, Snyder, Newhouse, A. Anderson and Hochstatter

Read first time 01/09/95. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Agricultural Trade & Development.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED
5 STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED
6 STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
7 STATE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE:

8 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
9 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
10 represent and petition as follows:

11 WHEREAS, Approximately two-thirds of the farmgate value of
12 agricultural production in Washington State is based on minor crops;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Washington State is one of the most diverse agricultural
15 states in the nation, growing a large number of relatively small but
16 specialized crops of great significance to the American consumer; and

17 WHEREAS, The continued production of these crops and their
18 availability to consumers is dependent on the ability to safely and
19 effectively control insects, weeds, diseases, and other pests; and

1 WHEREAS, An essential tool in the control of pests in either a
2 conventional or an integrated pest management strategy is the
3 availability of pesticides; and

4 WHEREAS, Without the availability of a full array of safe and
5 adequate pest management tools, there is likely to be a number of
6 negative consequences including: Decrease in the exports of food
7 products to other countries; increase in imports of less wholesome food
8 products; farming communities will have less diversified economies and
9 will be subject to more economic volatility; decrease of yield;
10 increase in price; decrease in food supply and variety; decrease in
11 ability to meet state and national produce quality standards; increase
12 in incidents of food safety hazards; and an increase in use of products
13 that have greater impact on human health due to higher toxicity than
14 the products that were previously in use; and

15 WHEREAS, The production of food in several states is similarly
16 affected due to the lack of availability of pest control products for
17 the production of minor crops;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
19 appropriate committees of the United States Congress inquire into the
20 effects of the 1988 amendments to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide,
21 and Rodenticide Act on the availability of pesticides for the
22 protection of minor crops and that legislation be introduced and voted
23 upon that has considered the following provisions:

24 (1) Extend the registrants' exclusive data rights by ten years,
25 thereby increasing the time period over which pesticide registrants
26 have to recoup the cost of registration;

27 (2) Establish specific time periods for the Environmental
28 Protection Agency to act on minor crop registrations as an incentive to
29 registrants to pursue additional registrations for minor uses;

30 (3) Provide for an extension in the time for registrants to submit
31 data equal to the time it takes for the Environmental Protection Agency
32 to act upon a request for a waiver, so that registrants are not
33 inadvertently forced to develop data during the time the Environmental
34 Protection Agency is deliberating on the waiver request;

35 (4) Provide additional time for registrants to generate the
36 necessary residue data for reregistration of pesticides for minor crop
37 uses, or if the registrant is unwilling to finance the generation of
38 the data, to give time to find other methods to generate the required
39 data; and

1 (5) Provide a temporary extension of registration for unsupported
2 minor uses so that, if the current registrant declines to request the
3 reregistration, other organizations have the time to comply with
4 registration requirements before cancellation of the registration.

5 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
6 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United
7 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
8 House of Representatives, each member of Congress from the State of
9 Washington, the Secretary of the United States Department of
10 Agriculture, the Administrator of the United States Environmental
11 Protection Agency, and the National Association of State Departments of
12 Agriculture.

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