

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

Platform Committee

9/18/2014

RESOLUTION 2014.04

A RESOLUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

Relating to Neonicotinoids in Lane County

WHEREAS, neonicotinoid is a systemic insecticide taken up by plants through the roots and the leaves, which spread through the entire plant and can be found in nectar and pollen of the flowers; and

WHEREAS, there are six types of neonicotinoids used on crops: imidacloprid, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, dinotefuran, acetamiprid, and thiacloprid; and

WHEREAS, neonicotinoid is used on fields and orchard crops, ornamental plants in nurseries and gardens, and on trees in gardens, streets, and parks; and

WHEREAS, imidacloprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, and thiamethoxam are highly toxic to bees, can reduced fecundity, depress the bees immune system, and increase susceptibility to biological infections, and, depending on the amount of exposure, can be lethal/ sub-lethal to the honey bees; and

WHEREAS, bee pollination is responsible for more than \$15 billion in increased crop value each year. About one mouthful in three in our diet directly or indirectly benefits from honey bee pollination. Commercial production of many specialty crops like almonds and other tree nuts, berries, fruits and vegetables are dependent on pollinated by honey bees; and

WHEREAS, there are other beneficial pollinators also susceptible to this systemic pesticide, including native bees, bumble bees, butterflies, lady bugs and more; and

WHEREAS, a ban on neonicotinoids supports the use of eco-system functions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Lane County urges Lane County to adopt the following policy:

A ban on the purchase and use by Lane County Public Works of products or landscaping plants that contains neonicotinoids or have been treated with neonicotinoids.

No department may knowingly purchase or use products or plants containing neonicotinoids. Departments may request suppliers of products to provide testing data from an accredited laboratory or testing facility documenting that the product or product in packaging does not contain neonicotinoids. Departments may accept from businesses, manufacturers, organizations, and individuals results obtained from an accredited laboratory or testing facility documenting the product does not contain neonicotinoids.

**Resolved by the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Lane County,
Assembled in Eugene, Oregon, September 18, 2014**

Signed:

X _____.

Julie Fahey

Chair

X _____.

Celine Swenson-Harris

Secretary
