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Hot Topic
Immediate Call to Action Requested

To: All FWAA Members and Associates

From: James F. Fitzgerald, Executive Director

A blue ink handwritten signature of James F. Fitzgerald.

Subject: HB 1220/SSB 5209

Date: March 6, 2015

HB 1220/SSB 5209 seeks to clarify an existing exemption from the Hazardous Substance Tax (HST) on FIFRA products that are only temporarily received and warehoused in Washington State but then distributed to surrounding states. The results of the bill will be increased product availability within a shorter time period, improved environmental safeguards, and the return of product storage in Washington State that will result in increased state and local revenues, rents and jobs.

Regardless of which state you reside or conduct business within, we respectfully request your immediate participation in contacting select Washington State legislators. We need you to ask the legislators identified below to take action on a bill which would have a dramatic effect on our ability to do timely and cost effective business within the entire Northwest Region. HB 1220 is in the House Finance Committee and SSB 5209 is in the Senate Ways & Means Committee. We ask that all members of FWAA take a moment to email your message today, tomorrow or ASAP. Below is the information you will need, (simply click on the underlined words in blue).

- The [One-Pager](#) and [Graph](#) on the issue;
- An [Example](#) of the message;
- The [List of Legislators](#) to contact;
- The [District Finder](#) (if desired)

Important Note: This same bill was also under consideration last year in both the House and the Senate. The Senate passed the bill and sent it to the House. Both bills died in the House Finance Committee. This year, our House Bill (HB 1220) continues to sit in the House Finance Committee with no scheduled plan for a vote. It is imperative that our members contact the identified legislators to urge that the bill move out of the Finance Committee for consideration by the full House body.

The Washington State Departments of Ecology, Commerce, and Revenue have weighed in as neutral. As members and partners of Far West, let's make our voices heard by email, writing or calling our legislators and letting them know where we stand and the importance of the issue to our entire industry. Please act now!