



## BEYOND PESTICIDES PRESS RELEASE

Protecting Health and the Environment with Science, Policy, and Action

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Beyond Pesticides**

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### **Group Urges Governor Beshear To Veto Bill (SB 199) that Shields Those Harmed But Not Warned About Pesticide Product Hazards**

WASHINGTON, DC, March 31, 2026—Beyond Pesticides, a national health and environmental organization working with groups in Kentucky, urges Governor Andy Beshear (D-Kentucky) to veto SB 199, a bill that will shield pesticide manufacturers from being held accountable by people who have been harmed by their products. Moreover, the bill will allow companies to harm Kentuckians even if a pesticide label is registered with false, misleading, or fraudulent information. In a [joint letter](#) that Kentucky Resources Council and Kentucky Sierra Club wrote to state legislators earlier this month, they said, “This bill is not necessary to protect farmers’ access to glyphosate and pesticides. If companies are concerned about their financial exposure due to health harms, they can and should add warnings to their product labels to address the total risks and the unknowns so that users can take proper precautions.”

The chemical companies have argued unsuccessfully in jury trials, and now are arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court, that they should not be required to warn consumers about the dangers of their products. Now they are asking the state of Kentucky to do what they have not been able to do in the courts—undermine the main legal argument used to hold pesticide corporations accountable for the harm their products can cause, effects like cancer. Nationwide, cancer victims have successfully won billions of dollars in jury verdicts against Bayer/Monsanto, the manufacturer of the weed killer glyphosate, because the company did not warn consumers on its product label about the risk of cancer from exposure.

If this bill were to be signed by the governor, it would strike a blow to consumer and farmer safety. In a climate with less regulation in the oversight of pesticide hazards, lawsuits on the company’s “failure-to-warn” hold chemical companies accountable for compensation and create an incentive for manufacturers to develop products that better protect health and the environment. The problem of failure-to-warn has been made urgent with the

retraction of a seminal academic paper on November 26, 2025, that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cited in 2017 when reviewing the human health assessment and carcinogenicity classification for glyphosate, which is slated for a final review later this year.

Failure-to-warn claims serve as the basis for the overwhelming majority of pesticide injury litigation over the past decades, according to legal professionals, including Brigit Rollins, JD, staff attorney at National Agriculture Law Center. Failure-to-warn is a legal argument grounded in the common law of state court systems across the nation.

Petrochemical-based pesticide manufacturers, led by the German-owned Bayer-Monsanto, are expanding their all-out push, which began last year, to advance legislation like SB 199 in Kentucky and over a dozen other states.

The groups are urging the governor to VETO SB 199 and ensure that those who are harmed by toxic pesticide products without warning can hold the chemical manufacturer accountable for their devastating illness.

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**Beyond Pesticides** is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., which works with allies in protecting health and the environment with science, policy, and action to lead the transition to a world free of toxic pesticides. Learn more at <https://www.beyondpesticides.org/>