
From: Representative Sally Toone <SToone@house.idaho.gov>
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To: Brian Oakey <brian.oakey@isda.idaho.gov>
Subject: {External}comment for rules



Idaho House of Representatives

Legislature.Idaho.Gov

Dear all,

Thank you for the opportunity to listen and have input into this process as the Idaho State Department of Agriculture has the responsibility of protecting our future, environmentally and economically. I appreciate the compromise in defining the “drift issue” as well as restoring the wind speed restrictions. This is a protection that our environment needs that often does not fit a generic label.

The concern I still must make is the removal of protections for “schools and hospitals” in the new definition of “congested areas”. As we know many rural areas have consolidated many of their services with schools and/or hospitals not located in the cities. With our geography, Idaho has several schools and hospitals that are NOT in a congested area. The current FAA definition assumes that hospitals and schools fall into this category, and that just is not true for Idaho. Prior rules ensured that “Hospitals and Schools” were notified and gave approval. There is no comparable requirement in FAA Regulations.

Instead, in order to protect the health of Idaho's most at-risk populations, I urge you to add schools, and hospitals to the definition of “Hazard Areas,” AND restore the prohibitions on applying pesticides within 1/2 mile of said Hazard Areas unless the wind is blowing away from the area. This is simply a health and safety issue that will better protect public health, students, elderly and other sensitive populations, while providing accountability and direction to applicators.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

*Representative Sally J. Toone
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*The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the
dissemination of the truth.--John F. Kennedy*

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