



# Empire State Forest Products Association

*The people behind New York's healthy forests and quality wood products*  
*www.esfpa.org*

47 Van Alstyne Drive / Rensselaer, New York 12144 / p: 518-463-1297 / f: 518-426-9502

*Chairman*  
Sean Ross  
Lyme Timber Company

*Vic Chair*  
Michael J. McLarty  
Finch Paper, LLC

*Treasurer*  
Christopher Truso  
Farm Credit East

*Secretary*  
Sarah R. Bogdanovitch  
Natural Resources Consultant

*Immediate Past Chair*  
Dennis Gingles  
International Paper Co.

*Executive Director*  
John K. Bartow, Jr.

## Memorandum of Opposition

**A 2477/S 5343**

Honorable Steve Englebright  
Member of Assembly  
621 LOB  
Albany, NY 12248

Honorable Todd Kaminsky  
Senator  
307 LOB  
Albany, NY 12247

Jennifer DeFrancesco  
B & B Forest Products, LTD

Sarah Bogess  
ReEnergy Holdings LLC

Pat Buff  
B&B Lumber Co.

Timothy Burpoe, CF@  
Molpus Woodlands Group, LLC.

René H. Germain, Ph.D.  
SUNY ESF

Thomas E. Gerow, CF  
Wagner Lumber Company

Doug Handy  
A&H Forest Management, Inc.

Michael W. Hanlon  
Cotton-Hanlon, Inc.

Damon Hartman  
Prentiss & Carlisle

Craig Jochum  
Craig Jochum Logging

Susan Keister  
Susan Keister, LLC

Elizabeth Lesnikoski  
Burlington Electric

Paul Mitchell  
Paul J. Mitchell Logging, Inc.

Charles Niebling  
New England Wood Pellet, LLC

Jack Santamour  
LandVest, Inc.

Ryan Tripani  
Catskill Forest Association

Edward G. Wright  
W.J. Cox Associates, Inc.

John Zemanick  
Gutchess Lumber Company

*Counsel*  
Dennis J. Phillips, Esq.  
McPhillips, Fitzgerald & Cullum

March 16, 2019

Dear Assemblyman Englebright and Senator Kaminsky:

The Empire State Forest Products Association (ESFPA) has concerns with **A. 2477/S. 2156** relating to the use of the use of the organophosphate pesticide chlorpyrifos, specifically prohibiting "any person to use chlorpyrifos". Chlorpyrifos is an organophosphate insecticide, acaricide and miticide used primarily to control foliage and soil-borne insect pests on a variety of food and feed crops.

The Empire State Forest Products Association (ESFPA) represents over 400 member businesses, industries and landowners engaged in forest resource production and stewardship of New York's 19 million acres of forest. In total, \$22.9 billion dollars in annual industry production and nearly 100,000 jobs are attributable to operations of various industries within the forest related sectors.

ESFPA is not opposed to addressing the concerns or potential environmental or health threats related to the use of chlorpyrifos, but we are concerned with the unilateral legislative prohibition of any pesticide (and in New York many herbicides) which are already strictly controlled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). New York is one of a few states has an extensive scientific product review process that compliments and in some instances exceeds the same type of process used by EPA.

This legislation, as well as several other bills before the New York Legislature relating to the control or prohibition of certain herbicides and pesticides, would circumvent the rigorous technical and scientific review process that exists in New York. It also sets a precedent to make such decisions regarding the labeling, packaging, storage, use and application of pesticides and herbicides in the political realm as opposed to by the experts in the scientific and technical fields.

ESFPA supports efforts to address environmental and public health issues posed by an ever increasing number of products that may harm the environment or the public which are used by the public and professionals. However, we do not believe any shortcomings of the existing technical processes should be circumvented and that the Legislatures efforts would be better directed to addressing the financial or administrative resource needs of the agencies responsible for ensuring that the regulation of these products is timely and effective in protecting the public.

cc: Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee Members  
Senate Environmental Conservation Committee Members

**For More Information Contact:**

John K. Bartow, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Empire State Forest Products Association  
47 VanAlstyne Drive  
Rensselaer, NY 12144  
Tel (518)463-1297  
Cell (518) 573-1441  
[jbartow@esfpa.org](mailto:jbartow@esfpa.org)