

## Section 453: An Appropriations Rider to Restrict Pesticide Warnings Must Be Rejected!

**Issue:** Section 453 is a rider added to the Interior and Environment House Appropriations Bill that is intended to stave off liability for harms from pesticide products. The rider is only in the House version of the bill. It provides consumers no public health benefit; it only benefits pesticide manufacturers.

**Why did Section 453 Appear?** Bayer/Monsanto has paid out \$11 Billion dollars for injury claims resulting from its failure to warn users of its glyphosate (Roundup) products of the risk of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Lawsuits have prevailed based on the company's *lack of warning on the product label of its known risks*, when it should have asked EPA to update the label to include them.

**There has been a great deal of confusion regarding the meaning of the Section 453 Rider.**

- During the markup, the Democrats and Republicans sparred about what the rider would and would not do. Rep. Mike Simpson, whose rider it was, claimed it only had to do with interstate commerce and problems caused by different labels in different states. Rep. Pingree and other Democrat Reps. indicated it was an attempt to prevent up-to-date label warnings by freezing the label until a major assessment is completed, thus impeding *failure to warn* lawsuits. (See [markup](#) @ 3h 23 min.)
- Section 453 would prevent timely label changes for each of over 50,000 registered pesticide formulations in the US when new adverse effects are discovered, delaying a warning until a complex review has been completed.
- More toxic pesticides might enter the market if there is a mechanism by which they could avoid liability until long after harms become known.
- Taken together with Bayer's simultaneous efforts at the EPA and Supreme Court, its legislative efforts in the states and statements made by its CEO, it is clear that the intention of the rider is to stop liability claims going forward.

### Bayer's Misinformation Campaign:

- House members have been falsely told that Section 453 would not interfere with claims against pesticide manufacturers.
- Their offices repeated this claim to constituents. It should be corrected.
- Bayer's [advertising](#) tells farmers that federal and state bills threaten to ban glyphosate or other pesticides. These bills do nothing of the sort.

**Please reject Section 453 in the 2025 House Interior and Environment Appropriations Bill:**

15 PESTICIDES

16 SEC. 453. None of the funds made available by this

17 or any other Act may be used to issue or adopt any guid-

18 ance or any policy, take any regulatory action, or approve

19 any labeling or change to such labeling that is inconsistent

20 with or in any respect different from the conclusion of—

21 (a) a human health assessment performed pursuant

22 to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act

23 (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.); or

24 (b) a carcinogenicity classification for a pesticide.