

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

REQUÊTE

Prohibition on importation, sale and use of Glyphosate

THE HUMBLE PETITION of the undersigned Members of the States of Deliberation SHEWETH THAT:

- (1) The chemical Glyphosate (commonly known as Roundup) is being used extensively on roads and farmland and in general household use as a weed killer in Guernsey. Roundup is the consumer product in most common use as a weed killer containing Glyphosate.
- (2) Your Petitioners are aware that Glyphosate has been identified as a Group 2A carcinogen (probably carcinogenic to humans) by the World Health Organisation (WHO) international agency for research on cancer. They also understand that it has been found to be bio-accumulative in women's bodies over time and found in breast milk of American women.
- (3) They note that Glyphosate has been linked to pollution of water sources, with residues in food supplies, and remains in the soil for long after it was sprayed, with a half-life of 47 days. As a result several countries and jurisdictions around the world have taken steps to limit Glyphosate use or ban it altogether.
- (4) Glyphosate has now been officially linked to cancer in court decisions in the USA. A recent case ended with \$2 billion being awarded in damages to individuals who claimed they were diagnosed with cancer after years of using Roundup. Several thousands of other lawsuits are understood by your Petitioners currently to be pending against the manufacturers of Roundup regarding the product and its side effects, including a cohort of more than 300 farmers, alleging that working with the chemical has given them cancer.
- (5) As part of the Biodiversity strategy the States of Guernsey are working to reduce the use of Pesticides and Herbicides to a minimum. Guernsey Airports and Harbours have indicated, for example, that they seldom use herbicides, preferring instead to use land management techniques to reduce weed growth and promote grass growth as an alternative on their properties.
- (6) States Works have reassessed the situation recently and have taken the decision to withdraw the use of Glyphosate by the end of 2020 due to the effect that it is having on the environment and biodiversity and the increase of the chemical in raw water.

(7) Despite this welcome change in policy Glyphosate will still be readily available to purchase and use in Guernsey for commercial and household use.

(8) Given:

- The increasing number of legal claims world-wide concerning Glyphosate;
- The number of jurisdictions taking action to reduce or ban altogether the use and sale of Glyphosate;
- The concerns and action being taken by States bodies to stop the use of Glyphosate;
- The serious health implications and the damaging environmental and biodiversity effects of the chemical Glyphosate;
- The need for public responsibility for safe practice;
- The fact that there are alternates to its use (except in respect of certain noxious weeds);
- The rising levels of contamination of Glyphosate in Guernsey's water supply,

your Petitioners are of the view that action should be taken in Guernsey to minimise or eradicate the threat to its inhabitants and its eco-structure posed by the continued use of Glyphosate in the Island.

THESE PREMISES CONSIDERED, YOUR PETITIONERS humbly pray that the States may be pleased to resolve:

1. To direct the Committee *for* Employment & Social Security, in exercising their powers under Regulation 11(8) of the Control of Poisonous Substances (Guernsey) Regulations, 2014, as amended, to revoke all existing approvals of plant protection products (pesticides) containing the active substance Glyphosate (CAS No. 1071-83-6, EU No. 213-997-4), including importation and sale to professional users and the public by 31 March 2020, and final use by professional users by 31 December 2020.
2. To recommend that the Committee *for* Employment & Social Security should consider granting licensed approval for Glyphosate for the use by professional users for the control of noxious weeds in Guernsey.
3. To direct the Committee *for* Employment & Social Security to review any licensed approvals for the use of Glyphosate for noxious weeds control by the end of 2022.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS WILL EVER PRAY
GUERNSEY

This th 29 day of August 2019

DAVID DE LISSE

BARRY PAINT

ROB PROW

JOHN GOLLOP

ANDREA DOOLEY-OWEN

PAUL R. LE PELLEY

LESTER QUERPEL

The original signed copy of this Requete is held at the Greffe and is available to view on request.