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U.S. Supreme Court Protects Bayer's Monsanto Weedkiller with Glyphosate that Causes Cancer from Further Lawsuits

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by **Brian Shilhavy**

Health Impact News

The U.S. Supreme Court handed the Trump Administration a huge victory today, by blocking further lawsuits against Bayer's Monsanto company which produces Roundup, the #1 herbicide used in the world with the cancer-causing ingredient glyphosate.

The reason I am saying that this a victory for the Trump Administration, and not just Bayer, is because the Trump Administration has been trying to pass legislation that would give Bayer total legal immunity from any harm caused by glyphosate in their products, similar to how pharmaceutical companies have legal immunity from any harm caused by vaccines.

See this article I published earlier this year:

[WAR ON FOOD! Trump Administration Traitors Lobbying for Bayer to Poison our Food with Glyphosate](#) ^[1]

Trump also issued an Executive Order earlier this year to produce MORE glyphosate-based herbicides in the U.S. through Bayer. See:

Trump Issues EO to Produce More Glyphosate Herbicide in the U.S. After Bayer Settles Cancer Lawsuits for Hundreds of \$Millions ^[2]

The [U.S. Right to Know website](#) ^[3] gives more details about Bayer's influence in the Trump Administration.

Tracing Bayer's ties to power in Trump's Washington

From lobby firms to top officials, a look at how Bayer built access and secured favors

Excerpts:

The White House [invokes the Defense Production Act](#) ^[4] to guarantee supplies of elemental phosphorus and glyphosate-based herbicides. Regulators [reapprove](#) ^[5] dicamba, a Bayer herbicide twice blocked by federal courts, and clear the way for [new pesticides](#) ^[6] containing toxic, persistent PFAS "forever" chemicals.

And the U.S. Justice Department [urges the U.S. Supreme Court](#) ^[7] to erase billions of dollars of Bayer's liability for its glyphosate-based Roundup weed killer – placing the weight of the executive branch on the side of a foreign company against thousands of Americans who say Bayer's products caused their cancers.

Over the past year, the administration under President Donald J. Trump has delivered a string of victories to Bayer, the German agrichemical and pharmaceutical giant that merged with Monsanto in 2018 to become the world's leading manufacturer of genetically modified seeds and pesticides.

Pesticide industry influence in Washington is not new. The Biden administration also delivered wins to Bayer, including defending pesticide [deregulatory measures](#) ^[8]. But Bayer's big wins with the Trump administration come as the company seeks sweeping legal protections from cancer lawsuits – at a time when a [growing body](#) ^[9] of [scientific research](#) ^[10] links glyphosate [to cancer](#) ^[11] and other [chronic diseases](#) ^[12], and [cancer rates are rising](#) ^[13] among young people across the U.S. Corn Belt.

These favors to Bayer clash with Trump's promise to "Make America Healthy Again," which many supporters understood as a pledge to confront industries linked to chronic disease. They show how a foreign corporation can procure influence at the highest levels of the U.S. government and shape policies that impact health.

Our review of Bayer's access in Washington found 16 key administration officials with ties to Bayer's lobbying or legal network. Bayer and its lobbyists have access to people in power at the White House, U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency and even those in high level positions closest to Trump.

Bayer also has a [formidable lobbying force](#) ^[14] in Washington, with 45 people registered to lobby for Bayer under the Lobbying Disclosure Act, and at least 13 outside lobby firms – [seven of which](#) ^[15] are now among the highest-paid firms in D.C. More than 30 senior officials at lobby firms retained by Bayer have direct ties to Trump, having worked in one or both of his administrations or political campaigns.

Taken together, these relationships describe a network of aligned actors positioned across the American institutions that write the rules for pesticides, enforce those rules, and defend them in court. The implications extend beyond one company or product line: Decisions shaped by Bayer's access to the Trump administration are affecting pesticide regulation, how chemicals are assessed, our nation's farm policy, and the ability of Americans to seek justice in court.

Bayer's reach into to Trump's inner circle

The most potent Bayer connections to the Trump administration involve a group of Florida lobbyists and former lobbyists who hold power in Trump's Washington: **Chief of Staff Susie Wiles, U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi**, and **Brian Ballard**, who employed both Bondi and Wiles as lobbyists for years before they joined the Trump administration.

Wiles, one of Trump's most powerful advisors in Washington, worked for Ballard Partners as a lobbyist and then partner for a decade until 2022. From 2016 to 2022, she also worked as a [senior advisor](#) ^[16] to Trump's presidential campaigns.

Ballard [raised more than \\$50 million](#) ^[17] for Trump's 2024 campaign, and served on the 2024 inaugural and transition finance committees; he is widely seen as one of the most influential people in D.C. in who does not hold an official government title.

Ballard's firm **Ballard Partners** became the [highest-earning lobbying firm](#) ^[15] in D.C. in 2025, [setting a record](#) ^[18] for the most lucrative year for any lobbying firm in U.S. history. The firm [registered](#) ^[19] to lobby for Bayer in December 2024. The firm also now [lobbies](#) ^[20] the **American Chemistry Council**, a trade group that includes Bayer among its corporate members.

Both Ballard and his partner, **Daniel McFaul**, who served on Trump's 2016-2017 presidential transition team, are registered to lobby for both Bayer and the American Chemistry Council. The two organizations have paid Ballard Partners a combined half million dollars since Trump was elected the second time, according to federal lobby disclosures.

[Full article](#) ^[3].



[21]

As I wrote this past weekend, glyphosate does much more than just cause cancer. The corruption and cover-up of Monsanto's glyphosate product goes all the way back to the 1970s, and *Health Impact News* has been one of the leading alternative news sites in the U.S. covering the dangers of glyphosate for almost a decade-and-a-half now.

A search for the term "[glyphosate](#)" ^[22] will yield a result of almost 400 articles during that time span on *Health Impact News*.

See:

[**Trump Issues EO to Produce More Glyphosate Herbicide in the U.S. After Bayer Settles Cancer Lawsuits for Hundreds of \\$Millions**](#) ^[2]

As far as I know, my online store, [Healthy Traditions](#) ^[23], is still the only store that tests EVERY food we sell for the presence of glyphosate before selling it, and we have been doing it since 2014.

We might be the only source in the U.S. right now, for example, [selling honey that is not contaminated with glyphosate](#) ^[24].

Organic certification is not enough. Even USDA certified organic products have to be tested for the presence of glyphosate, but few companies do.



Here is the [Washington Post's coverage](#) ^[25] on today's Supreme Court decision on Bayer.

Supreme Court blocks thousands of suits claiming Roundup causes cancer

The ruling restricts one of the largest waves of product liability lawsuits in the history of the nation.

Excerpts:

The Supreme Court on Thursday restricted a massive wave of lawsuits claiming the chemical giant Monsanto had a duty to warn consumers of alleged cancer risks from the world's most popular weed killer, Roundup.

The decision turned on a technical legal question, but one with enormous stakes. On the line are billions of dollars, the fate of tens of thousands of lawsuits filed by cancer victims and the future of an herbicide farmers say is crucial to the nation's food supply but health groups warn is a danger.

In an ideologically mixed 7-2 decision, the justices ruled that federal law preempts cancer victims from bringing lawsuits against Monsanto in state courts, where most such claims are filed.

The justices ruled Monsanto was not required to offer a warning because the Environmental Protection Agency holds that Roundup's active ingredient, glyphosate, is not a cancer risk.

"EPA has not required glyphosate-based pesticides like Roundup to include a cancer warning on their labels," Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh wrote for the majority.

"Therefore, as a matter of federal law, Monsanto legally must use a label without a cancer warning unless and until EPA approves or requires a change."

The ruling came over the objections of liberal Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson and conservative Justice Neil M. Gorsuch.

“Ultimately, the effect of the majority’s interpretation is both remarkable and regrettable, for it unjustifiably closes the courthouse doors to state tort plaintiffs like Durnell,” Jackson wrote.

John Durnell sued Monsanto in 2019 in Missouri state court, claiming his use of Roundup as part of an initiative to beautify parks around his home in St. Louis over two decades caused his non-Hodgkin lymphoma, a form of blood cancer.

[Full article](#) ^[25].

Health Impact News has been one of the leading alternative news sites in the U.S. covering the dangers of glyphosate for almost a decade-and-a-half now, and a search for the term “[glyphosate](#)” ^[22] will yield a result of almost 400 articles during that time span on *Health Impact News*.

In the mid 2010’s, two MIT scientists, Dr. Anthony Samsel and Dr. Stephanie Seneff, along with Dr. Don M. Huber, Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology at Purdue University, began to warn the public about secret documents held by the EPA over the dangers of glyphosate, and its pervasive negative impact on human health.

I assigned my top investigative health reporter at that time, [the late John P. Thomas](#) ^[26], to research this issue, and he conducted a series of interviews with Dr. Huber and Dr. Seneff in 2014 which I published in two different articles:

[Is Glyphosate Responsible for your Health Problems?](#) ^[27]

[Glyphosate Herbicide Causes Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria, Kidney Disease, and Infertility](#) ^[28]

In March of 2015, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which is part of the World Health Organization (WHO), released a report listing glyphosate as “probably carcinogenic” in causing non-Hodgkin lymphoma and prostate cancer.

This was headline news all around the world, even in the corporate media.

Right after this report, Dr. Anthony Samsel went public with what he claimed were “Trade Secret” sealed files that he had obtained from the EPA, which he claimed proved that Monsanto knew about research connecting glyphosate to cancer since the 1970s. See:

Glyphosate Causes Cancer: EPA “Trade Secret” Sealed Files Reveal Cancer Link Known Back in the 1970s ^[29]

What followed for the next several years in the U.S. were lawsuits against Monsanto for harm caused by glyphosate, as well as many groups petitioning the EPA to list warnings on sales of glyphosate, where anybody, even children, could walk into any store selling garden supplies and purchase Roundup.

But the EPA did what it usually does, and stood up for Monsanto by not only refusing to phase out the use of glyphosate in agriculture, but refused to even place a warning on its sale in retail stores across the U.S. where it is still sold to this day.