



Representatives, thank you for your time today.

I'm Eric Bowers, 4th generation Grass Seed, wheat and forage grower from Harrisburg.

I am asking you to vote "No" on HB 3171.

The reason being the federal and state government already does a good job of regulating pesticides.

I farm in Linn and Lane County, the counties are already strapped for money and they don't have the expertise or the people to regulate pesticides.

For some people, pesticides are an emotional subject because they have no to poor education on pesticides. Farmers and Foresters do not use pesticides for the fun of it. They are a tool that costs a lot of money and we only use them when it is a necessity.

Hypothetically, if the wrong people were in charge in Lane County and they decide all pesticides should be banned then over half of my farm's yields would drop 50 to 75 %. If that happens over all the conventionally farmable soil in the county it eventually affects the county tax base also

I have banks, landlords, employees and families depending on me to be productive.

Local control is good for schools, water districts etc but not for pesticides. Driving across county line shouldn't change good farming practices. I urge you to vote "No".

Thank you.

Eric Bowers
4th Generation Farmer