

Kerns Rainbow Ranch, Inc.
45917 Quail Road
Haines, OR 97833
March 21, 2013

House Committee on Energy and Environment

RE: Opposition to HB 3171

Dear Chair Jules Bailey and Committee Members,

We are strongly opposed to HB 3171 bill for the following reasons:

- It is duplicative – regulatory functions for labeling and proper use of pesticides already resides in both the Environmental Protection Agency and Oregon Department of Agriculture.
- Counties and Cities have neither the expertise, nor funds, to properly assume this responsibility.
- The “Label is the Law” which would mean governmental sub-divisions within Oregon would be required to submit, and have approved, county or city specific label language.
- This bill will have a negative impact on the agricultural economic base across Oregon. It will also have a negative impact on city and county budgets, which are already stretched thin.
- This bill undermines the current law (ORS 634.055-634.065) which assures continuity across the state for safe use of pesticides.
- We are potato growers in Baker County. We must often rent land suitable for raising potatoes in adjacent Union County, which lies in the north end of the Baker Valley. To have an additional level of pesticide regulations specific to two different county labels would be a management nightmare.

Please vote NO on HB 3171.

Sincerely,

Tim and Jan Kerns