

# Oppose State Pre-emption

We, the below undersigned, wholly support the following statements in opposition to SB 633 and HB 3192. We wish our support for these comments to be submitted as testimony for public hearing.

Dear Committee Members,

It's a fair claim to state that Oregonians take pride in their state and what is produced here. All of Oregon's biggest economic industries strive to differentiate their Oregon-based products as being of superior quality to those produced elsewhere, whether that's hazelnuts, berries, pears, seeds, fish, wine, beer, truffles, cheese, broccoli, Christmas trees or countless others. Every instance of an existing agricultural county ordinance or any of the ones currently in the works are put in place to protect and foster one of these industries that make Oregon special. The large-scale corporations pushing for the passage of SB 633 and HB 3192 are not operating in Oregon to grow something special that Oregon can take pride in. Instead they are here to grow cheap commodity crops and treat Oregon like just another state with dirt they can merely put their seeds in.

Is there anyone out there championing Syngenta's sugar beet seeds as something proudly grown in Oregon or being able fetch an economic premium from being a quality Oregon product? No. They are simply cheap commodity sugar beet seeds that could have been grown anywhere. Flip the coin and there are plenty of people praising Oregon's organic and specialty *beta vulgaris* seed products, among many others. These products fetch enough of an economic premium to make being a local family farmer a viable financial option for Oregonians. Syngenta's sugar beet seed plots directly put at risk all other neighboring organic and specialty seed growers cultivating other beets and chards, thus threatening the livelihood of many Oregon family farmers. Local ordinances such as Jackson County's upcoming GMO ban aim to protect its citizens in this exact situation.

The state pre-emption in SB 633/HB 3192 tries to block the ability of good local hard-working, tax-paying Oregon farmers and citizens from being able to protect local agricultural industries, economies, and environments that are vital to their health, well-being, and livelihoods.

The backers of SB 633/HB 3192 claim that without passage the state will be riddled with a patchwork of confusing ordinances. However, counties have arguably had the ability all along to create agriculturally-focused ordinances (if they haven't, then what is the need for this bill?). Is there a patchwork of confusing ordinances? No. Instead, in two very specific pear-growing regions of the state, there are local ordinances that help protect the livelihoods of the fruit farmers in those counties. By continuing to allow counties to address agricultural issues that matter to the citizens who live and farm in those counties, the network of ordinances that emerge will make logical sense based on the agricultural economies that flourish in that given region of the state.

Forcing agricultural issues to be addressed only at the state level hinders the ability of one

region's farmers to get their concerns addressed. Why should a *beta vulgaris* issue in Jackson County bother or even have an impact on people in Baker County? If SB 633/HB 3192 were to become law, Jackson County farmers would have to make the Representatives and Senators and possibly even the citizens of Baker County care about their issue. That's nearly an impossible feat and a challenge that Jackson county farmers shouldn't have to face. It's very plausible that in the near future all winter wheat farmers in Umatilla County could need to guarantee to overseas markets that all their exports are GMO Free. A significant concern already exists: Japan, the largest buyer of Oregon's wheat crops, has already declared they would seek wheat suppliers elsewhere if anyone here in Oregon starts growing GM wheat. Those exports are a vital part of the economies in Oregon's wheat-growing counties. Being able to pass a local ordinance to protect those counties from a non-Oregon corporation such as Monsanto coming in and planting crops that jeopardize the livelihoods of our Oregon family farmers seems beyond logical, and is of critical importance.

Article VI, Section 10 of the Oregon Constitution as well as ORS 203.035 grant counties authority "over matters of county concern", but not matters over statewide concern. If a county is establishing an ordinance limiting a particular agricultural crop within its boundary, and not beyond it, that is clearly a matter of county concern and has no bearing on statewide concerns. The ordinance limiting a crop is not broadening statewide concerns and allowing something the state denies, but rather narrowing the concern for the tighter level of control that its citizens desire. ORS 203.035 further states that the power it grants to counties "shall be liberally construed, to the end that counties have all powers over matters of county concern that it is possible for them to have under the Constitutions and laws of the United States and of this state." Nowhere is there an exemption in the Constitution of the United States nor the State of Oregon or its laws that excludes agriculture from this authority. Tampering with this authority as SB 633/HB 3192 attempts to do is not a decision to be taken lightly, and arguably the fundamental right to self-govern and that all governments are created to serve the people should supersede and outweigh any interest in letting SB 633/HB 3192 take this authority away.

While SB 633/HB 3192 is targeted primarily at preventing the Jackson County GMO ban and similar local ordinances, the canola issue is a ripe example of state-level agencies failing to address matters of local concern. In the face of overwhelming testimony against allowing canola in the Willamette Valley, including unquestionable proof from other specialty seed growing regions around the world that canola will ruin the Valley (taking with it the lucrative specialty seed and produce economies), the ODA still sided with a handful of farmers and non-Oregon Corporations who want to plant a cheap commodity crop for bio-fuels. The further insult is that canola is not even an efficient bio-fuel crop, as there are other smarter crop choices to grow if bio-fuels are the desired output.

The fact that this bill, SB 633/HB 3192, is having a hearing right now and the Willamette Canola Ban has not had one is further evidence that matters of specific local concern are not being heard, yielded to, or addressed in an effective manner at the state level. The canola issue affects multiple counties simultaneously, so there is a clear reason for it to be addressed at the state level. But if an issue such as canola that affects 9 counties and is clearly supported by the majority of citizens in those counties is having difficulty at the state level, how is a specific issue, which farmers and citizens of single county care about, ever going to get any traction at the state level? We must preserve a county's ability to create ordinances governing matters of

county concern, including those that relate to agriculture.

For all the above reasons I strongly urge the you to dismiss SB 633/HB 3192 without passage.

Total signatures: 193

	<b>Name</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Comment</b>
1.	Margaret Mason	OR	The people have the right to create ordinances in their county,the county does not have the right to take away the rights of the people! This the basis of our democracy, and any committee member who votes for taking away democracy, is part of the larger problem in this country. This is United States of America where the land is controlled by many and not the few. Keep democracy, and let the people decide.
2.	Hank Keeton	OR	Please dismiss SB633-HB3192. These corporate-supported issues are a thinly veiled attempt to silence the voices of citizens. They attempt to preemptively strike at the heart of Democracy....rule of the people, by the people, and for the people. They are efforts to make industry-voice out-shout people-voice. Let the citizens of Oregon decide how their lives are affected by events around them. Please vote-NO on SB633-HB3192
3.	Robert Bickers	OR	
4.	steve buckee	OR	
5.	Hermina Kann	OR	NO GMO's !!! Wake up! "leaders" need to learn why they are banned in 60 countries!!! Study Africa, India and Brazil to see the havoc caused by GMO's. New devastating long term results are showing up every day. The American people are being poisoned!!!!
6.	Carol James	OR	Until State Agencies are able to put the people who live in Oregon first, rather than do the bidding of corporations who pollute our planet, they should not have the right to force unhealthy choices upon people who want healthier choices in their lives.
7.	Jennifer Powell	OR	People's rights and voices should not be silenced and relinquished for corporate interests. Do not sell us out for your own profits and gain.
8.	Carole Hildebrandt	OR	
9.	Diane Heath	OR	
10.		ON	
11.	John Furukawa	OR	
12.	Kendra Wolf	OR	
13.	Jeffrey White	OR	
14.	Sarah	OR	

- McLain
15. Layne OR  
Ostrochovsky
  16. Layne OR  
Ostrochovsky
  17. Kristi Cooke OR
  18. Wendy OR  
McGowan
  19. Michelle ID  
Kaptur
  20. Tom Atlee OR This is a totally unacceptable usurpation of democratic rights of self-determination. There is NO overriding reason why GMO interests should trump the interests of citizens, consumers, and environmentally responsible farms at the county level.
  21. Peg Elliott OR Please do the hard stuff...resist the spoilers. Thank you.  
Mayo
  22. Monique OR  
Kirby
  23. Terri Lane OR Please do your job as the citizens of Oregon elected you to do, and not what the Corporations pay you to do!
  24. Peter OR  
Chabarek
  25. Gwen Sky OR
  26. Robert OR GMOs must be banned.  
Bushman
  27. Kelly OR A regulation against regulation? We must protect the health of people  
Caldwell & the environment, not companies and businesses that cause harm.
  28. Aline OR Preserve our freedom and save our seeds! Small seed farmer says no to  
Crehore GMOs!
  29. Bekki OR  
Bruckner
  30. Holly OR  
Garland
  31. David Hazen OR
  32. Louise OR  
Moore
  33. Lisa OR  
Knowlton

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| 34. | Alan Rose             | OR | I am against these GMO purveyors attempting to exploit the great state of Oregon the local organic farmers with their corporate interests that are at odds with consumer health, environmental health and locally grown food interests.   |
| 35. | Laurie Fox            | OR |   |
| 36. | Dr Tim Lowenstein     | OR | We need to protect our food supply, our lives depend on it.   |
| 37. | Michael Wherley       | OR |   |
| 38. | Susan Saunders        | OR | GMS's are dangerous on every level. They alter the DNA of our bodies and the plants and animals that consume them. They do nothing to enhance the quantity and quality of the food needed for all humans to eat well. This movement has been stopped in Europe just by labeling. People stopped buying foods labeled "contains GMO grown foods." So the stores stopped carrying these foods. Bingo. |
| 39. | Glenn Harden          | OR |   |
| 40. | Mora Dewey            | OR | Another ploy to remove decision-making power from the citizens. You must vote NO on these bills.  |
| 41. | Brooke Lumbra         | OR |   |
| 42. | Genie Harden          | OR |   |
| 43. | Patriciafaye Marshall | OR |   |
| 44. | Jan Meredith          | OR |   |
| 45. | Alice England         |    |   |
| 46. | Natasha Reulet        | OR |   |
| 47. | Erin Quinn            | OR | We must allow communities/counties to have the ability to block dangerous corporate domination of our food choices. I am totally against GMO canola and GMO crops of any kind.  |
| 48. | Joe Greiner           | OR |   |
| 49. | Maria Sause           | OR |   |
| 50. | Sherrie Heckendorn    | OR | Please stand up for Oregon and our environment and for we the people. I want to know that I am giving my family food that is safe to eat. We must stop all gmo and gmo seeds.   |
| 51. | Heather Bates         | OR | Please don't pass these bills, it would be against everything Oregon claims to stand for. Please don't give in to big corporations.   |

52. Tree Bressen OR
53. Nikkol OR Come together...and sign please...it's the honest true thing to do~\*  
Fletcher
54. Vonda Welty OR
55. Robert WA Believe what's true - NOT what's convenientQ  
Bolman
56. David Saul OR
57. Kathy Ging OR
58. Laura M. OR  
Ohanian
59. Joan Pinkert OR
60. Lana Tice OR
61. April Scott OR Block SB633/HB3192
62. Desta Serrine OR Taking away Oregonian's right to have a say in what is or isn't allowed to be grown here is not o.k. particularly when the crop will harm surrounding brassicas (broccoli, cauliflower, etc.) organic and otherwise, provide very little benefit to Oregon, and introduce potentially harmful GMO's that have been yet to be properly independently tested.
63. Kathy Boone OR
64. Adrienne OR  
Borg
65. David OR Oppose SB 633 and HB 3192 state preemption of local laws regulating  
Hoffman agriculture. In the just the case of canola, cross contamination would be permanent. We are are WORLD CLASS / PREMIER seed growing area. WE will LOSE millions of international dollars from markets that reject transgenic contamination. Neglect of the soil has "helped topple empires and wipe out entire civilizations" and care of the soil "has enabled other societies to flourish for centuries". "Conquest of the Land Through 7,000 years", Dr. Lowdermilk, Soil Conservation Service  
[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043789.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043789.pdf)
66. Charlie OR  
Swanson
67. Kieran Walsh OR I care what goes in my body. Please do not allow GMF into the Oregon food chain.
68. Melanie Rios OR
69. Eron King OR Children's health is more important than corporation profits! Please dismiss any attempt to lessen a communities rights to decide what their food system will look like! Communities over Corporations!!
70. BARB WA

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71. Sarah Praskievicz OR While I believe many of the stated concerns about GMOs may be overblown, I also believe citizens have the right to regulate what is grown in their communities.
72. Sam Stoufer
73. Michael James OR We want to have the most healthy environment possible and we recognize that our agricultural possibilities are tremendous but we must stay GMO clean. These laws breakdown local resistance and for that reason must be stopped. Let's maximize our potential for food production, packing and selling. We have a right to protect our state and land from transnational zealots who only think of their own pocketbook.
74. K Cashatt OR
75. Shelley Sovola OR
76. Shanti Maffey OR
77. Harriet Edith Roberts ON
78. Dan Weiner ON
79. Nancy Leon OR
80. Rushiko Nishikuni OR Keep GMOs out of Oregon. Monsanto is an evil company trying to take over our farming rights and suing farmers for infringing their patented undesirable seed "rights". Corporations are not people! Keep Monsanto out of Oregon! Keep our farms organic! GMOs, Roundup and Roundup ready soybeans are not natural and are not needed, so far the world has done just fine without them. **DO NOT BUY ANYTHING FROM MONSANTO COMPANIES. HIT THEM WHERE IT HURTS, THEIR SWOLLEN WALLETS!**
81. Donna Riddle OR
82. Shannon Wylie
83. Pamela Driscoll OR Let the communities to have the power to decide what business is allowed to operate within their boundaries. Anything less than that is NOT democratic.
84. Peter Rozsa
85. Mike Millard OR
86. Karen Stingle OR
87. Richard Valley OR County by county quarantines and other restrictions by county are common in agriculture, and the seed growing business is important for many Oregon farmers with each region specializing in certain crops. Oregon vegetable

seed is known around the world and this business is good for the state. No laws should be made to prevent counties from protecting the livelihood of their farmers.

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| 88.  | Tim Monaco          | OR |   |
| 89.  | Cheryl<br>Hockaday  | OR |   |
| 90.  | Marcy Berg          | OR | We want a safe and secure food system. Real food, not science food.   |
| 91.  | Norma<br>Williams   | OR |   |
| 92.  | M Smith             | OR |   |
| 93.  | Barbara<br>Comnes   | OR |   |
| 94.  | Fergus<br>Mclean    | OR | Monsanto has declared its intention to dominate all food on planet earth. It is free competition and open pollination which can preserve agricultural diversity, independent farmers and public health. Monsanto's claims of increased productivity for GMO crops have been proved false over and over. What they do undoubtedly have is lots of money to spend and the resulting political influence. Have you the courage to stand up against such a huge and greedy corporation and to serve instead the interests of those who elected you to office? |
| 95.  | Audrey<br>Moore     | OR | What happened to democracy? No hearing, no voice, no choice?  |
| 96.  |                     | OR | NO GMOs in Oregon! Do not hurt our agriculture!   |
| 97.  | Leo<br>Goodman      | OR |   |
| 98.  | Stephen<br>Kirkland | OR |   |
| 99.  | chris hardy         | OR | I believe LOCAL control of our agricultural resources is democracy. Please OPPOSE SB633. Thank You,   |
| 100. | Gary Harmon         | OR |   |
| 101. | eric<br>nicholson   | OR |   |
| 102. | Greg Norman         | OR |   |
| 103. |                     |    | Counties in Oregon are very different in terms of their agricultural environments and needs. Counties should maintain their right to create their own agricultural regulations. Please oppose this proposed legislation!  |
| 104. | Billy Scudder       | OR |   |
| 105. | Abel Kloster        | OR |   |
| 106. | Joan and            | OR | Come on Salem.....act for us and OPPOSE SB633/HB192. We must not be   |



- David Seidel controlled by huge corporations, esp. those out of state.
107. Jolynn Moore OR
108. Dr. John Gardiner OR Corporate interference in our rights must stop, NOW!
109. Joan Lemont
110. Anthony Gaudio MA Can't believe what they are doing to our food. They complain about the high cost of medicare, why isn't more attention of the quality of food and not the pills to take to try to fix the problems
111. sandra bronstein OR
112. Rick McDonough All Gmo's are poison and are killing the planet!
113. Charles Thomas OR
114. Kimberly Smith OR At least 58 Countries world wide have completely banned GMO crops/seeds... Why, because it is genocide of humanity.. Please grow a conscience or a brain if you would like to see the next generation have something left of what's left of Oregon's natural resources!!!! Seriously, we are suppose to set an ecological example for the rest of the country and yet these bills are even considered... let me guess corporate kick backs to politicians... STAND UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT FOR HUMANITY PLEASE!!!!
115. Michele Antico
116. sarah mayer OR
117. John Herberg OR
118. Barbara Padgett OR
119. Richard McGuinness OR
120. Dana Furgerson OR
121. Angela Scala OR
122. Susan Cundiff OR
123. James Diefenderfer OR
124. Cherie OR

- Anello
125. Toni Starr OR GENETICALLY modified foods are poison to the human body. We need nature's bounty, not transgenic Frankenfoods that lead to disease, suffering and death. By the way, this poison and control maneuver is part of UNITED NATIONS AGENDA 21.
126. Mary Addams OR
127. Lon Otterby OR
128. Annette Simard OR Please put health and food safety before profits and exoediece. It's about the future of our agriculture and your basic health. Please honor the American tradition of local control. Thank you.
129. DALE VISINAIZ OR
130. Theresa Fiora Starchild-Wolf OR Oregon is very special, and one of the primary reasons is the wonderful diversity of family farms and specialty agricultural products that, in turn, become locally made and grown foods, which further foster restaurant businesses that attract tourism. Please do not destroy this powerful economic engine, which also gives so much to our quality of life in Oregon.
131. adam oester OR This is bad for Oregon and all humans. Stand for us. Be our voice.
132. Ann Fillmore OR Don't let MONSANTO and big ag determine how Oregon's agriculture will be handled. Oregon is famous for its excellent independent farms - its organic produce, its wine and orchards. Even the Japanese treasure our wonderful ORGANIC produce. Don't mess with it.
133. Melissa Klemes OR
134. Margaret Philhower OR
135. Alisa Ocean OR
136. Jana Taylor CA
137. charles manning OR
138. Jason Jackson ON
139. Susan Lily OR
140. mal drake
141. Elisabeth Goines OR
142. Barbara Tada OR
143. James Kness OR

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| 144. | Joshua Welch          | CA |   |
| 145. | Amanda Wells          | OR | NO GMO's, please.   |
| 146. | Catherine Seitz       | OR |   |
| 147. | Caroline Tinker       | OR |   |
| 148. | Sandy Holder          | OR |   |
| 149. | B.A. Grodhaus         | OR | Is whoever the legislator is who proposed this having his campaign coffers filled by Syngenta or Monsanto or?   |
| 150. | Beth Pool             | OR | The voice of democracy belongs to the people who are at LOCAL levels. Do NOT pass this bill that gives power to temporary money and destroys thriving communities.  |
| 151. | Mariah Leung          | OR |   |
| 152. | cheryl bruner         | OR |   |
| 153. | Laura Jean            | OR |   |
| 154. | Julian Oliver Johnson | OR |   |
| 155. | Christa Knittle       | OR |   |
| 156. |                       | OR |   |
| 157. | Tom Huntford          | OR | Because there is significant danger that the un-natural combination of chemicals produced by GMO plants pose significant threats to human health, and because it is impossible to prevent cross-pollinization from GMO plantings, and because there is a large and growing market for non-GMO food, the State Legislature should not restrict the right of the people to vote by county or any other jurisdiction to ban the importation and production of GMO foods. |
| 158. | James Rich            | OR | This should be a no-brainer for anyone except those in the pay of agribiz!  |
| 159. | Carol Valentine       | OR |   |
| 160. | Belinda Niebur        | OR |   |
| 161. | Lars Limburg          | OR |   |
| 162. | Kim Finley            | OR | This is of grave concern by many Oregonians I have spoken with. This bill is absolutely not in the best interest of our agricultural base, not to mention the health of all Oregonians. It is time to listen to the citizens of this state.   |

- This bill must not pass!
163. Robin Bloomgarden OR Once we have ruined the Willamette Valley for Organic and other high-value healthy food crops, there will be no turning back. That's it, we are just another state producing unremarkable crops like every other state.
164. Steven Mohr OR We should label ALL FOODS which contain GMO's.... the market would solve this problem in a heartbeat...
165. Anisha Scanlon OR
166. Eric McEwen Uphold democracy! Protect the people. Do not quell the peoples' voices, if you do you are failing your constitutional obligations.
167. Deborah Carroll OR The GMO issue is one of deep concern for me. This is science that has no solid research that addresses future potential environmental problems. It just makes a few corporations rich without end. Please do the right thing with these bills. Toss them out.
168. Rouanna Garden OR Have the state of Oregon GMO free. Now that's standing up for human health.
169. Susan Clow OR It is time to stop GMOs from entering Marion County or our state pf Oregon for that matter. Big Business is only in the business of making money and they are unconsciousness about what they are doing in the process of being mega millionaires. Sad state of affairs. Money is nice, but greed isn't.
170. Katrina Kellmer
171. Joan Tromler OR
172. dea evans OR
173. Dave King OR
174. Sharon Lemaster OR GMO's alter the 'chain', by their very nature.....what will happen to the bees whom we depend upon for pollination, if your vote supports a GMO INVASION????? Our un-modified seeds are no threat to the GMO, yet will un-modified seeds be threatened by the modified? Yes, and we the (concerned citizens &) majority of seed producers must be their voice. The corporate voice is strong, and has been proven to leave destruction in its wake, time and time again. Please recognize that small farms and locally produced crops are best managed by local small farmers. When given the available information and an opportunity to then make their own decisions, small farmers are making good choices....One size fits all political decisions for a state, first of all, doesn't consider bio-regions, because often these strattle state lines. Even county lines are biologically NOT LOGICAL, however, small enough that the folks inside these lines can gather and discuss their issues and come to intelligent decisions when given the facts to examine thoroughly. Thank You for allowing Oregon citizens to grow our crops without the threat of certain death of naturally occuring seeds by JUST STAYING NO TO SB633/HB3192.

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| 175. | Daniel Dalegowski  | OR | Go ahead and pass legislation at the request of corporations chartered only to obtain profit. We will outlaw GMOs and other harms with or without you. And when the state sues my community we will cast you out. It may then be time to take up arms. Avoid this PR disaster and represent the flesh and blood people of Oregon.  |
| 176. | Tom Hartland       | OR | pre-emption denies the citizens the right to consider what's best for themselves. Set aside this bill.   |
| 177. | Beth Dell          | OR |  |
| 178. | Jen Velinty        | OR |  |
| 179. | marina farish      |    |  |
| 180. | Be Good            | OR |  |
| 181. | Richard Gamble     | OR |  |
| 182. | michael francisco  | OR |  |
| 183. | Nathan York        | ON |  |
| 184. | Nicole Phleger     | OR |  |
| 185. | Katherine Baynton  |    |  |
| 186. | Mike Neel          | OR |  |
| 187. | Larry Fried        | OR |  |
| 188. | Gretchen Olson     | OR | I believe counties and their citizens should have the right to maintain health standards for their families and agricultural integrity for their surroundings.   |
| 189. | Christine Gardiner | OR | Tell us again, who do you work for?  |
| 190. | Denise Cousineau   | OR | Stop the poisoning of our heritage lands with any GMO's which kill honey bees and contaminate non-GMO crops. In addition, the companies sourcing these GMO's are aggressive and unethical toward traditional heritage crops; quite simply they do not want any competition and are working on creating this in Oregon too. Stop this before they have their way and force out alternative seeds. |
| 191. | Samuel Lemaster    | WA | The right to self govern is of paramount importance to all citicans. In order to achieve a true free democracy the polititions must work on the behalf of the PEOPLE not the corporations. Leaders, lead the PEOPLE!   |
| 192. | Mason Ainsworth    | OR | I believe counties should have the right to establish and maintain sustainable communities.  |
| 193. | Roberta Lindberg   | OR |  |

