

Raszka Shelley

From: Christine Perala Gardiner <christine.perala.gardiner@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2013 11:12 AM
To: Rancier Racquel
Subject: Opposed to SB 633

Greetings Ms Rancier,

My testimony is for the public hearing on March 12th.

Sen. Arnie Roblan

Vice-chair

Sen. Herman Baertschiger

Members

Sen. Ginny Burdick

Sen. Betsy Close

Sen. Floyd Prozanski

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March 2013

Dear Senators on the **Senate Committee on Rural Communities and Economic Development**

Senate Bill 633 represents astonishingly bad agricultural policy bill. If this bill were to pass, "exclusive regulatory power" over agricultural seed would be given to the state. What can the author be thinking?? The premise of this bill is that the state is better at determining the economic benefits for every county in Oregon by regulating seeds, the essence of farming.

The state has no business in determining what's best for farmers when it comes to seed policy. Farmers need to have immense knowledge of their economic needs, their soils, climate, market conditions, machinery and many other factors to make **decisions on seed purchases and production**. Farming is one of the most important economic sectors in the State. What business does the State of Oregon have to usurp these important decisions from our food producers?

Counties are not 'one size fits all.' What may work for Lake County won't work in Jackson or Douglas County. Each county has unique characteristics, economic needs and opportunities that sustain our diverse farming industry. Counties are the logical governing unit for seed policies so fundamental to farming. Every year in every County, seeds are saved, swapped, packaged, sold and germinated to suit the needs of the farm community. State level bureaucrats do not and can not know enough to determine seed policies for Oregon's counties.

Senator Roblan, SB 633 is ill-conceived legislation. What is to be gained by the state fixing what's not broken? Leave it to the county's ability to best determine, maintain, and support the vitality and economic development of the local farming economy, and thus all of Oregon.

Would you be able to reply to my email to tell me, who is the author of this proposed legislation?

Please oppose SB 633. It represents bad State policy. As I see it, this proposal serves the economic needs of Monsanto and a few other multinational seed "companies", who seek to force GMO seed on the people and the farmers of Oregon. Please do your job, to protect Oregonians and Oregon from this disaster. Thank you for considering the views of this farmer.

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