

I am Doug Hoffman President and CEO for Wilco and am current Vice Chair of Oregonians for Food and Shelter and here to testify in support of Senate Bill 633.

I want to thank Senators Hansell, Roblan and Baertschiger for co-sponsoring this bill.

Oregonians for Food and Shelter is in support of this bill because:

- Local counties and municipalities are not technically or financially equipped to regulate agricultural crops. This bill will allow the regulation to be done at the State and Federal level where economies of scale are to hire the expertise capable of doing the regulation.
- USDA, EPA, and the FDA, currently regulate GE plants and have access to the needed expertise on the issue. The cost of discovery, development and authorization of a new plant biotechnology trait introduced between 2008 and 2012 was \$136 million, and takes an average of 13.1 years to make it from discovery to commercial market.
- Oregon Department of Agriculture has the plant scientist's expertise to determine if additional Oregon specific regulations are needed.
- Different restrictions on seeds in different counties and municipalities creates a regulatory nightmare for growers, manufacturers, distributors, and local governments.
- Counties and cities lack the financial resources and expertise to enforce regulations on agricultural seed, and SB 633 will relieve them of this potential.

For Wilco and its 3000+ farm family members it would be extremely difficult and expensive to have potential new regulations from 36 counties and over 400 cities in Oregon.

Today Wilco is in 20 different locations, affected by all communities and counties from Central Oregon to the Oregon coast and 15 counties throughout western Oregon. To deal with county by county regulations we would need to increase our costs as well as our farm family member costs

in order to stay up to date on different county by county or worst yet city by city regulations on agriculture crops.

It all begins with the seed and we desire to allow our growers to have the best and latest seed variety options, including bio tech derived crops as they work to feed the great citizens of Oregon, the United States and the growing population around the world.

Senators we ask that you please support Senate bill 633 to allow all Oregonians a voice in the production of Oregon farm crops.