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OREGONIANS FOR FOOD & SHELTER

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A non-profit coalition to promote the efficient production of quality food and fiber while protecting human health, personal property and the environment, through the integrated, responsible use of pest management products, soil nutrients and biotechnology.

SB 1531— Relating to marijuana facilities 20 February 2014 Testimony to House Judiciary Committee

Honorable Committee Members:

Oregonians for Food & Shelter (OFS) is a grassroots coalition of farmers, foresters, and other technology users focused on natural resource issues involving pesticides, fertilizer, and biotechnology. We are writing you today in support of Senate Bill 1531 which would clarify the authority of counties and cities to regulate marijuana dispensaries.

During the 2013 Special Session, OFS strongly supported Senate Bill 863, which provided state preemption over the regulation of agricultural seed. Since the passage of that bill some question has arisen about a local municipalities legal ability to regulate marijuana dispensaries. While we don't necessarily think ORS 633.738 definitively precludes a municipality from regulating marijuana dispensaries, we are supportive of clarifying any ambiguity in this regard.

It was never our intention with our support of Senate Bill 863 to keep local municipalities from regulating marijuana dispensaries and we urge you to provide these jurisdictions legal certainty on this issue.

Please support Senate Bill 1531.

Regards,

Scott J. Dahlman
Executive Director