May 5, 2015



1320 Capitol Street NE Suite 160 Salem, OR 97301 (971) 599-5269 oregondairyfarmers.org

The Honorable Chris Edwards Senate Environment and Natural Resources, Chair Oregon State Senate, S-411 900 Court Street N.E. Salem, OR 97301

Sent via E-Mail: Sen.ChrisEdwards@state.or.us

RE: Support for HB 3382

Dear Chair Edwards:

The purpose of this correspondence is to advise you of the Oregon Dairy Farmers Association support of HB 3382 as introduced. It is our understanding the bill simply strives for the allowance of continued production of canola in the Willamette Valley Protected District in years four, five and six of a six year Oregon State University canola field monitoring study.

The bi-product of canola after the oil is extracted is a valuable protein source for dairy operations in close proximity to the Willamette Valley. Dairy operations have been sourcing the canola meal for the past three years and the elimination of this feed source does have the potential of negatively impacting the economic sustainability of a locally grown and available protein source to local dairy herds.

We appreciate your willingness to consider the potential allowance of production of canola as requested in HB 3382. The result of the field monitoring study will no doubt inform planting decisions and production zones into the future. In the meantime, the markets that have been developed should be allowed to continue until the study reaches its scheduled conclusion.

Thank you, in advance, for your careful and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Tami Kerr, Executive Director

Jam Kepa

OREGON DAIRY FARMERS ASSOCIATION

Cc: The Honorable Alan Olsen, Vice-Chair

The Honorable Michael Dembrow The Honorable Floyd Prozanski The Honorable Chuck Thomsen