

From: Richard Yarnell
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2015 12:36:22 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Reiley Beth
Subject: Oppose HB 2509

Senator Edwards,

Who's running the State of Oregon, the legislator we elected or Corporations that don't care squat what we think?

What standard applies: science or marketing?

I hope the Senate Environment Committee will make its determination on the basis of sound science and not the glossy and optimistic claims of Monsanto and other bullying companies whose only goal is to pad their bottom lines.

OPPOSE House Bill 2509.

There are instances where GMO crops can be a danger to humans, but not many, and, so far as I know, none that have made it outside the lab.

There are plenty of GMO plants that are potentially a danger to the environment, either directly, or indirectly.

Monsanto doesn't think the public needs to know whether GMO India is an ingredient in the food we eat. Does that mean they're afraid that if we do know, we won't buy?

In order to protect its products, Monsanto and others would like to shift the burden of defending its products onto farmers it knows already lead a marginal existence. I suppose that's better than the stunts they've pulled in under-developed countries, rural India comes to mind, but not much better.

In order to give Monsanto a free pass at the taxpayers' and farmers' expense, you'll need to ignore the actions of much of the EU, the evidence that's mounting when it comes to decline of pollinating insects on which most of our agriculture depends, and on confirmed reports, some of which Monsanto has had to defend, that its open field testing and widely dispersed plantations cannot be contained.

This is a bad bill. It's a brazen attempt to have the protection of a profit making company guaranteed by a weak legislature. Don't do it. Some of the products that GMO's are designed to tolerate are impossible to put back in the bottle. All of the pollinated GMO varieties are capable of contaminating the genome of natural plants. The long term damage of further limiting the plants used in agriculture is dire since it reduces the resilience of nature to confront pathogens and pests.

I won't repeat what I'm sure you know about the bill. As a farmer, now retired, I know that GMO's are a bad idea, that the way they're marketed is killing small farms and reducing our ability to cope with diseases enabled by industrial style agriculture.

Keep Oregon green. Don't abet the selfish, near criminals, that run the seed/chemical conglomerates at everyone else's expense.

Kill HB 2509

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