

Trant Lindsay

From: Claudia Ingraham <claudiaing@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2015 12:52 PM
To: Reiley Beth
Subject: opposition to HB2509

I, Claudia Ingraham, living in Jacksonville, Oregon, strongly oppose HB2509. There are at least 4 big problems with HB 2509:

- 1. Forced mediation.** HB 2509 would effectively **force farmers whose crops were contaminated by GMOs into a vague “mediation process”** orchestrated by the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA) before a farmer could go to court to sue to try to stop GMO contamination. Farmers can already use mediation if it make sense, but they should not be forced into a biased “mediation” process controlled by staunch GMO supporters at the ODA.
- 2. Liability for farmers contaminated by GMOs.** If a farmer refused to mediate, HB 2509 says they could be liable for hundreds of thousands of dollars in a GMO-grower’s attorney’s fees in a related court case. **AND if Monsanto or their ilk joined the case, the farmer could even be liable for their attorney fees.**
- 3. Pro-GMO mediators.** HB 2509’s mediation process would be orchestrated by the State agency that has done more to defend GMOs than any other: the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA). ODA could then create a costly and time consuming mediation process that would make it harder for farmers to protect themselves against GMO contamination.
- 4. Funding for OSU propaganda.** The bill would also direct propaganda funding to OSU for “educational materials and information regarding the coexistent use of agricultural lands.” The bill would put OSU, which has a long history of promoting GMOs, in the position of using Monsanto’s talking points that GMOs can “co-exist” with organic and other non-GMO crops despite the dramatic contamination events and billions in damage that GMOs continue to cause to non-GMO crops.

Please hear me loud and clear!!!!!!!

Thank you,
Claudia Ingraham

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