

Before the House Rules Committee  
Testimony in support of HB 3549  
Shelly Boshart Davis  
SJB Farms  
May 21, 2015

Chair Hoyle and Committee,

I must applaud the efforts made by this committee, previous committees, work groups and supporting organizations to come to an agreement with House Bill 3549.

I farm with my parents in Albany and Tangent and we farm over 1000 acres of grass seed, hazelnuts, wheat, and bale grass straw. Our farm is spread out with many fields over a 15 mile radius. Responsible pesticide use is a tool that we use along with other Oregon farmers. After reading this bill, I feel this is an accomplishment to both allow farmers to responsibly continue to utilize necessary farming practices while adopting new procedures and establishing protocols for concerned people.

I've worked with the Oregon Department of Agriculture through many of their different divisions, and have seen first-hand how frustrating it is when you can't get an answer immediately. Reading this bill and seeing both the funding and personnel added to ODA is a great sign that concerns are being heard and dealt with. I applaud both the legislators and ODA's efforts here.

Being a farmer, I want to point out the misconception that irresponsibility is rampant. Just like every industry, you can find bad apples. But I along with every farmer I know – we are the rule, not the exception. Farmers adhere to guidelines, labels and processes. We take care of the land because our livelihood and our next generation depend on it. This bill will continue to allow responsible and conscientious farmers to provide food, feed and fiber to everyone – and at the same time putting teeth into penalties and failures by the few bad apples.

Thank you for your consideration and efforts.



Shelly Boshart Davis  
SJB Farms  
Boshart Trucking  
541-928-8662  
shelly@bosharttrucking.com