

May 20, 2015



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Oregon Progressive Party Position on Bill at 2015 Session of Oregon Legislature:

HB 3212: Oppose

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party officially opposes HB 3212, which would require government to compensate property owners for diminution in the value of their property due to any law or rule adopted solely to restrict a farming practice that was previously allowed.

This would require compensation to the owners of any agricultural operation, if any of their current practices are banned or regulated. For example, it would require compensation to:

- farmers who are growing genetically-modified crops, if such crops are later banned or even regulated so as to prevent accidental spreading of the seed; or
- poultry operations, if regulations on chicken house conditions are adopted or changed; or
- any farm, if regulations on aerial spraying of pesticides or herbicides are adopted or changed

The requirement for such compensation could prevent the adoption or enforcement of needed environmental, health, and safety measures. Just because an agribusiness has been harming the environment does not mean it has a permanent privilege to do so or that the public must repurchase this privilege from the agribusiness.

Please include this statement in the legislative record for this bill.

Thank you.

