

From: Chris Mayou [<mailto:chrismayou@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 10:42 AM

To: Reiley Beth; Sen Dembrow; Sen Edwards C; Sen Prozanski; Sen Olsen; Sen Thomsen; LaBar James; Sen Beyer; Sen Monroe; Sen Riley; Sen Girod

Subject: HB 3212 and HB 2509: Protect family farms and agricultural diversity

Dear Senator Girod and others:

I'm writing today to urge you to vote against HB 3212 and HB 2509. My parents and grandparents were farmers. I worked on the family farm until I went to college. The future of agriculture is more diversity, fewer chemicals, and a more local food supply. Oregon can be a leader in this!

HB 3212 would undermine the ability of counties to adopt laws that protect family farmers growing traditional or organic crops from the impacts of industrial agricultural practices, such as GMOs. With the recent development and approval of GMO crops designed for heavy spraying with 2,4-D (the major ingredient in Agent Orange), it is more important than ever that local communities preserve our ability to protect family farmers from practices that put family farmers at risk.

Similarly, **HB 2509** pits large industrial farmers (and Monsanto, which supplies their seeds and herbicides) against small family farms. One farmer's actions should NOT put another farmer at risk!

*Kindest regards,
Chris Mayou
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