

From: Wade Flegel
To: [LRO](#)
Cc: [Wade Flegel](#)
Subject: HB 2859
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 9:07:25 PM

Dear Sirs,

My family farms in Prineville and hope to continue in the future.

We grow alfalfa, wheat and cattle. This year we have experienced very low prices for these crops and we can not raise the price, as the supply and demand determines the price we receive. We are price takers not price setters. The price for alfalfa average was \$30 per ton under our cost which means our farm lost \$100,000 this year.

The cost of equipment is very high, for example, a hay baler is \$160,000 and can only be used 4 months. To add personal property tax would be catastrophic to our family farm.

If that is not bad enough, HB 2859 would also eliminate farm deferral. Our way of life, working together with my wife and four sons producing crops to feed livestock and growing cattle from the land for years and generations to come would be in jeopardy. Our farm provides open space and scenery for all citizens to enjoy, but putting high property taxes on farm ground would force urbanization of our farms.

I urge you not to allow this bill to move forward for if it passes it will mean a death to family farms.

Thank you, Wade Flegel

Sent from my iPad