

Dear Chair Clem,

Local counties and cities are not equipped to regulate agricultural crops. Local regulations of seed would create a significant burden, especially for growers who operate on land that crosses city or county lines. ODA has the plant scientists and expertise to determine if additional Oregon specific regulations are needed. Different restrictions on seeds in different counties and cities creates a regulatory nightmare for growers, processors, distributors and local governments. Farmers need certainty as they determine what to grow. GE crops have been rigorously studied and determined not to be substantially different from other crops and pose no unique risks to neighboring growers. USDA, EPA, and the FDA currently regulate GE plants and have in-house expertise. Cost of discovery, development and authorization of a new biotech trait is astronomical, and it takes over a decade to make it from discovery to the commercial market. Please protect Oregon's farmers by OPPOSING HB 2469! Oregon's seed preemption law protects my right to plant what crops work best for my farm and is important to farmers and ranchers!

Sincerely,

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