

HB 2469 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Prepared By: Misty Freeman, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines genetically engineered product. Allows local government to enact or enforce local law to prohibit the production or use of seeds or seed products for purpose of protecting non-genetically engineered seeds or products from adverse impacts of genetically engineered seeds or seed products.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 863 (2013 1st Special Session) made findings that regulation of agricultural, flower, vegetable, and nursery seed and seed products are reserved to the state. As a result, ORS 633.738 prohibits local governments from enacting or enforcing regulations of such seeds and seed products. The statute exempts Jackson County, where voters banned propagation, cultivation, raising or growing of genetically modified organisms in an election May 20, 2014.

House Bill 2469 would allow local governments to enact or enforce a local law to inhibit or prevent the production or use of genetically engineered seeds and seed products in an effort to protect non-genetically engineered seeds and products from potential adverse impacts.