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I am eager to see HB 2469 approved to restore Oregon farmers' rights to sustainable agriculture, free from the threat of GMO contamination and the lobbying pressures of industrial agriculture. The pre-emption of democratic rights to self-determination around agricultural policy in semi-autonomous bioregions throughout Oregon will not stand in the face of World Food System literature and authorities (such as the U.N. FAO) because only small-holder farms are recognized as the hope of future global agriculture. By preventing such local governance of small farms and farming communities, the State is unfairly and unjustly legislating against the very solutions recommended by world food security experts. The building of consensus that food is essentially a public good and must not be unduly subject to the vagaries of today's globalized market for industrially-produced foodstuffs is being also compromised. GMOs are statistically proven to be **not** a solution to food insecurity and macroeconomic instability. We are standing upon the edge of a global food crisis and the greater the resiliency of our local/regional food systems depends upon social democracy, not dubious laws blatantly in favor of and sponsored by allies of the GMO industry.

Thank you for reading these comments aloud in the State House.

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