Dear Administrator Freeman,

In 2013, the Oregon legislature took away the right of local government to regulate agriculture. Since then the legislature has failed to provide any meaningful statewide regulations to protect family farmers from the risks of genetically modified (GMO) crops.

<u>HB 2469</u> would restore the ability of local farmers to address their diverse agricultural needs at a community level by allowing communities to create measures such as GE-free zones to protect family farmers and specialty non-GMO crops.

We have a small farm on the outskirts of Portland and ask that you support HB2469 and distribute this comment to committee members.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Bonnie Mitchell 11908 NW McNamee Rd. Portland, OR 97231 March 15, 2017