I am writing to urge you to please support HB 2739

Over the past decade, repeated episodes of contamination by genetically engineered plants have cost U.S. farmers billions of dollars. Oregon farmers grow many high-value or specialty crops that are at significant risk of contamination by GMO crops. Creeping Bentgrass, a GMO grass, continues to spread in Malheur and Jefferson counties.

GMO crop contamination usually pits farmer against farmer. <u>HB 2739</u> would hold patent holders, instead of farmers, responsible for contamination events.

Please distribute my comments to committee members.

Thank you,

Satya Vayu

Portland, OR