



*Home of Aunt Patty's & GloryBee Products*

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Eugene, OR 97402      GloryBee.com

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Hearing date: April 12, 2017

Testimony from RaeJean Wilson, Senior Executive Vice President of Glory Bee in support of SB 1037

Contact: RaeJean Wilson, Senior Executive Vice President

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RE: SB1037      Written Testimony

To The Senate on Environmental and Natural Resources Committee and Whomever It May Concern:

GloryBee is a natural, non-gmo and organic foods & products, ingredients and beekeeping supplier located in Eugene, Oregon. Our main products are honey, oils, nuts and seeds. Our business started in 1974, and is still family owned and operated. We employ 200 people, and sell ingredients in the Pacific Northwest and beyond to food manufacturers, restaurants, grocery stores, and bakeries. In 2012, GloryBee formalized and introduced our Save the Bee nonprofit, dedicated to raising funds for honey bee research and protection, ninety percent of which goes to Oregon State University Bee Lab.

Because of our dedication to honey bee health, and the health of all pollinators, we would like to express our support for Senate Bill 1037.

**Why GloryBee supports SB1037:**

1. Protecting small holder and family farmers is important to the food security and resilience in our State.
2. GMO free products are important to our customers, to Oregon's customers and is the fastest growing product attribute and also a key to sustaining organic certification.
3. This is key to protecting and enhancing Oregon's rich history in an abundant agricultural products that are in high demand domestically and internationally.
4. Oregon's Honey Bees are in trouble. GMO crops are sprayed with insecticide that is harmful to honeybees and other natural pollinators. Honey Bees on a neighboring farm will travel to insecticide covered crops up to a 4 mile radius and these insecticides show up in honey, bee pollen and beeswax.
5. Our customers demand traceability from farm to store or table. The premium for non-GMO Project Verified Honey is up to twice the amount paid for regular conventional honey. Currently GloryBee is the only supplier of non-GMO Project Verified honey in the United States, and we have to import this honey from overseas. By enacting this ban, farmers and thus beekeepers have the ability to produce non-GMO Project Verified honey.

We hope you join us in supporting SB1037.



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Sincerely,  
RaeJean Wilson, Senior Executive Vice President  
Alan Turanski, President  
GloryBee, Inc