

One of the main problems with genetically engineered life is that once it is released into the environment, it can get anywhere, even where it is unwanted. Those that are released enter our environment and become a part of it.

Sometimes the consequences can be dramatic and very harmful, such as cases of the gmo species out-competing native species, or non-gmo commercial species. Sometimes the damage is done when an organic crop becomes inadvertently contaminated with a gmo crop. These problems need to be addressed before these gmo species can be released into the environment.

Holding the patent holder liable for those damages seems to be a good way to do that, particularly given that our regulatory agencies are often unduly influenced by the influence from the money of large corporations protecting their profits at the expense of the good of the public.

HB 2739 addresses this problem and puts the burden where it belongs and where it will do the most good. There are some critics of the bill who say that it will stifle innovation. I believe it will stifle irresponsible innovation, which should be stifled.

Please protect Oregonians and rural economies by supporting this important bill.

Thank you,

Kyle Rolnick

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