



Snake River Produce Company, L.L.C.

P.O. Box 1727
Nyssa, Oregon 97913

Ph. (541) 372-2205
Fax. (541) 372-5788

February 18, 2019

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of HB 2451 which will do away with mandatory inspection on onions in Oregon. My name is Kay Riley and I am General Manager of Snake River Produce Co. LLC., in Nyssa, Oregon. The current law requiring mandatory inspection of onions in Oregon is antiquated and redundant. Many years ago the Idaho Eastern Oregon Onion Committee was formed which is a Federal Marketing Order which allows for joint marketing, research and promotional activities. The "Order" includes "Handling Regulations" that are very specific and are more stringent than the Oregon State law. Initially the Marketing Order passed these handling regulations to improve the quality of the product being shipped out of Idaho and Eastern Oregon for the purpose of improving reputation and the ability to market our crops. Idaho shippers are required to inspect their onions because of the Marketing Order but, not because of any state law. If the Handling Regulations were suspended the Mandatory Inspection would put us at a competitive disadvantage with our neighbors. I don't know of any other states that have a Mandatory State Inspection Law. Since the time of the passage of the law onion marketing has become extremely competitive, and it is necessary to ship only the best of quality. To have this law on the books seems redundant. As I understand it, it requires that they be inspected not that it has to meet a particular grade standard. I am in favor of doing away with Mandatory Inspection.

Sincerely,


Kay Riley, General Manager