

We are biodynamic/organic farmers (not certified) on the west side of the Hood River valley. For the past 14 years we have been saving heirloom varieties of seed to share with our community here in Hood River, and for starting our crops each year.

I am writing in support of HB 2882 because I believe it is an important measure to help protect our heirloom and natural seed supplies. These non-GMO varieties are proven to produce healthy food, without toxic chemicals and are essential for our food security. Although we do not yet know precisely the effect on our health of genetically modified foods themselves (though there are growing numbers of independent reports showing negative effects), we DO know that they encourage the use of substantial amounts of toxic chemicals, especially glyphosate (a known hormone disruptor) which is now being found in water supplies and even breast milk all around the world. As more people become aware of these problems there is an increasing demand for uncontaminated seed. We desperately and urgently need protection from the corporations who contaminate our seed supplies. Please take the necessary action to protect our seeds and build Oregon's food security. Thank you for your consideration.

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