

The Oregon Feed & Grain Association (OFGA) supports a commercial feed program in the state that is properly funded and can stand on its own. OFGA acknowledges that the commercial feed program is in need of funds. Our concern is that the bill gives the department the authority to double or triple the fees. We encourage the committee to provide direction to the department that any fee increase be within reason and the budget needs to run the feed program.

We have several questions to ask of the committee. 1) Describe the Budget Evaluation and planning that went into justifying the proposed cap in the bill? 2) Does the department intend to increase the fees right away to the \$60 or \$1,000.level? 3) What assurance can the department give that industry will be consulted regarding program needs when setting the fee?

The proposed increase of fees could have a significant impact on Oregon businesses and companies distributing products into the state. If the bill passes, we would like some assurance from the department that the fees will be set via regulation appropriate to the needs of the department, and not more than is anticipated in the next several years.

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