

Opposition to HB 2205

I work in the agricultural industry, but am not a farm or business owner, and I oppose HB 2205. Briefly I have two main reasons for doing so and a question.

This bill is too general and can be applied too broadly, and it gives too much power to “bully” organizations. It has been shown time and time again that the monetization of lawsuits creates the incentive to “sue and settle.” Lawsuits and litigation for even the most remedial of issues are pursued every day by a person trying to make a buck, whether that person was actually harmed or not. Let’s be honest, justice isn’t the purpose of a lawsuit. Money is.

I see this bill being a gateway to open up floods of lawsuits that will ultimately be time consuming for all involved, and would take away precious time from our attorney general and any other involved state official even though this bill claims it would actually be helpful to them.

Lastly, I have a few brief question, Section 5 (10) states “A public enforcement action is not required to meet the requirements of ORCP 32.” Why would this be? It seems like the requirements for meeting a class action lawsuit are important or they wouldn’t be there. Why would this type of enforcement and lawsuit be any different and why should it meet fewer requirements to be accepted?

I don’t know who wrote this bill, but their motivation seems awfully greedy to me. This bill won’t bring justice to the average person. It will only hinder a functioning justice system, and inspire corruption and greed.

Thank you for your consideration, I would vote no on HB 2205.

Rachel Sherrell