

Submitter: David Kilpatrick

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Measure: SB1564

To my elected officials and fellow citizens,

My name is David Kilpatrick. I farmed industrial hemp for several years but took last year off to focus on helping people through my work in Healthcare. Thus I am directly affected economically by this bill as it would not allow me to return to farming hemp due to taking a single year off. Farming involves significant multiyear investment that will leave many farmers unable to recoup their investments if they are arbitrarily pushed from the market by lack of licenses. Farmers need the freedom to grow what ever legal crop they please with as little interference the state as possible, or they will be out competed by out of state farms every time. Furthermore, it is not the states job nor that of the OLCC to determine the quantity of "supply of and demand for industrial hemp." Hemp is a global market and if the state has any role in the supply and demand if this industry it should be in increasing the market share of Oregon hemp. Being able to rotate crops, or the act of growing a crop for a year and a new one the next, is vital to the economic viability of farmers. Oregon can not afford to have its businesses harmed by our legislative leaders any longer. If any bill does not increase personal freedoms or economic growth I urge you to cast your vote against it. Farmers need our help and support, not ever increasing regulatory overreach. Thank you for your time.