

Distinguished members of the Oregon Senate,

The proposed amendment to Senate Bill 1564 would allow only two grow sites for any licensed hemp business. This provision would be very detrimental to our small hemp seed business in two ways.

1. The ODA considers each greenhouse as a separate "site" even if the greenhouses are integral parts of a small farm. The site limitation provision would hamper a seed company's ability to maintain germplasm, make crosses, and advance the competitive position of Oregon's hemp germplasm. The more valuable economic activity of hemp germplasm creation and production will be forced out of Oregon into neighboring states. Hemp for grain and other mechanized hemp products are crops for the future that our business seeks to serve.
2. ODA considers each non-contiguous tax lot to be a separate "site" even if the tax lots are only separated by a public road or other public property. A small operation such as ours with several small non-contiguous tax lots (with no private property between our properties) are already forced to register multiple "sites". We would be detrimentally and unfairly impacted by the site number limitation! Yet there are no limitations on the size of a "site". Wealthy, large hemp flower production operation could be less affected than our small operation and other small businesses by the limit in the number of "sites", since a large operation could license a huge property as a "site".

The proposed amendment limiting the number of sites would be unfairly detrimental to our small business and detrimental long-term to Oregon agriculture by forcing innovation out of state.