Senate Bill 789

Sponsored by Senator GELSER BLOUIN; Senators HANSELL, PATTERSON

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced.**

Makes permanent certain restrictions on growing canola within Willamette Valley Protected District.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT

- 2 Relating to canola production; and declaring an emergency.
- 3 Whereas Oregonians will benefit from prohibiting canola production within the Willamette Val-
- 4 ley Protected District; and

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- Whereas the Willamette Valley will benefit from prohibiting local canola production; now, therefore,
- 7 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
 - SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:
 - (a) "Canola" means plants of the genus Brassica:
- 10 (A) In which seeds having a high oil content are the primary economically valuable product; and
 - (B) That have a high erucic acid content suitable for industrial uses or a low erucic acid content suitable for edible oils.
 - (b) "Willamette Valley Protected District" means the area encompassed within a rectangle formed by the point in Tillamook County that is the northwest corner of township 1 north, range 6 west, the point in Multnomah County that is the most northeastern point of township 1 north, range 2 east within Oregon, the point in Lane County that is the southeast corner of township 19 south, range 2 east and the point in Lane County that is the southwest corner of township 19 south, range 6 west.
 - (2) A person growing canola within the Willamette Valley Protected District must receive prior approval by license from the State Department of Agriculture.
 - (3) The department may:
 - (a) Authorize a person to grow canola within the Willamette Valley Protected District only in a manner determined to be compatible with the growing of other crops, including but not limited to the maintenance of isolation distances between canola and other crops that equal or exceed the industry-recommended isolation distance between specialty seed crops of the genus Brassica and other crops.
 - (b) Authorize canola production within the Willamette Valley Protected District, not to exceed 500 acres per year.
 - (4) The department may assess a civil penalty, not to exceed \$25,000, against a person that violates subsection (2) of this section or the terms of a license issued under this section.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

SECTION 2. The Legislative Assembly intends that if this 2023 Act becomes law after July 1, 2023, section 1 of this 2023 Act operates retroactively to July 1, 2023. All canola planted within the Willamette Valley Protected District after July 1, 2023, and prior to the effective date of this 2023 Act is subject to the requirements set forth in section 1 of this 2023 Act. Any lawful action described in section 1 of this 2023 Act that is taken by the State Department of Agriculture after July 1, 2023, and prior to the effective date of this 2023 Act is hereby ratified and approved.

SECTION 3. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on July 1, 2023.
