

Submitter: Kerry Backsen  
On Behalf Of: Haystack Farm and Feeds  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources  
Measure: SB789

I am writing to oppose SB 789. We don't need production limits on agricultural products! We utilize a lot of canola oil and canola meal in our feeds for horses, chickens, and livestock. The demand for our products has been increasing across the Northwest and across the Country. We are currently using hundreds of tons of canola meal and oil. We are buying this commodity from Canada and from the Midwest.. Local production is better! It saves on the use of diesel and in turn helps the environment. Our mill alone could utilize the complete harvest of over a 1000 acres of Canola products. This amount is using our current production numbers. We are also hoping that this can be grown in Central Oregon. Farmers need a drought resistant crop that they can make a profit on! Canola is one of these crops that farmers can grow without using a lot of water. Agriculture in Central Oregon, especially Jefferson County, has been severely devastated due to a shortage of water as well as the designation of the Oregon Spotted Frog as a threatened species. Farmers in this area, and in Oregon, aren't getting a break and could really benefit from having another crop option! Please don't further restrict agriculture in this state!