

Submitter: mel scott
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1058

Dear Chair Lieber and Members of the Committee:

As climate change disrupts our food and agriculture systems, organic practices offer solutions that mitigate adverse impacts, support adaptation towards agricultural and economic resilience, and offer new market opportunities.

I support the concentrating on how to best support farmers who want to do organic farming. I hope that this bill will help Josephine and Jackson counties finally get the ban on GMOS that these counties sought to have. The organic industry is not perfect because the private sector meaning the large corporations wanted to be part of that scale. It is my hope that with this bill that the small and midsize farms in Oregon are realized in the grand scheme of our economy. It also my hope that the organic farmers will not have to have a second job any longer to support their farms. It's time to invest in these valued members of our community and give them the support they need to thrive. Also please realize that the youth are concerned about environmental stewardship and the way to have more youth involved is to have the Oregon organic industry is ensuring agroecological processes and principles. Furthermore it would maybe stop the cross pollination problems that organic farmers go through by having more and more farmers choose to become organic farmers. If implemented correctly this would help the rural areas have cleaner drinking water. My only hesitation is that it's a move to scaling up an industry. The organic industry needs more regulation. It should not cost more to do organic correctly though which is why I support this bill. I hope this fixes the farmers hesitation on getting labeled organic and the exclusions in the current system which are related to cost and labor. Oregon migrant workers deserve to work on farms that protect their health. This bill with the spirit of Oregon consumers and growers seems like we ought to all support. It's common ground for sure. Thank you for your time.