

Submitter: Keith Marx

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: HB4059

Hello,

I am writing today to voice my opposition to continuing the 500 acre limit on Canola Production in the Willamette Valley.

We farm just west of Salem on the west side of the Eola Hills. Our farm produces Grass Seed and Hazelnuts as our main crops, with Oats, Peas, Turnips, Canola and Radish as rotation crops.

Having better access to Canola acres would help us better match our rotation crop to Market conditions, and Pesticide program to support our long term profitability. With HIGH Interest Rates, Inflation and ever increasing fertilizer and pesticide costs, remaining profitable is more challenging than Willamette Valley Farmers have seen in decades.

On our farm, we do not support continuing to limit Canola acres at 500 per season.

We do respectfully advocate for our elected representatives to follow the Science and consider the Study they requested from Oregon State University that shows no adverse effects to growing Canola.

We also respectfully advocate for a PUBLIC pinning system administered by Oregon Department of Agriculture. It needs to be a system accessible to all and not run by a private entity.

We look forward to a future with reasonable oversight and market driven acreage numbers for this crop.

Thank you

Keith Marx

Marx Family Farms