

Submitter: Heidi Geschwill
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or
Topic: SB747

I am a third generation farmer in Woodburn, we have 1100 acres, and I OPPOSE SB747. Every year it becomes more difficult to comply with the rules and regulations that get smashed down on us. It's also costly and time consuming. When will the attacks from the legislature, and the State agencies ever end? Why should farms that are over 200 acres be saddled with one more layer of registering and reporting themselves? Like they are destroyers of ground water, and nobody else is. Such arbitrary nonsense. Different crops use different amounts, and types of fertilizers, which also makes the acreage limit pretty dumb. Someone with fewer than 200 acres may use MORE fertilizer than a bigger farm. I think SB747 should at least burden everyone, to be fair. Not sure if the folks in the legislature realize that farmers don't apply more fertilizer than our plants need. In fact I know farmers who have skimped, because they can't afford to stay in business in Oregon if they don't. Their yields go down, it's not a win-win. Fertilizer is one of the biggest expenses for a farm. Do you think we are spending more than necessary on plant food? There is so much more I could say, but I want to keep it brief and remain civil. Please dump this possibly well-intentioned, but poorly crafted concept in the fertilizer heap where it belongs. It's offensive to all of us in agriculture. Stop considering us to be ruining the ground and water that feed you.