

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

I am Wade Bingaman and live and farm in Union County, Oregon. I oppose SB 747 for the following reasons:

Fertilizer is a very expensive input, with costs skyrocketing in recent years. Producers are already disincentivized from applying more than is needed.

Fertilizer rates vary widely based on soil type, crop and crop rotation, weather, and a host of other factors. Rates alone cannot determine overapplication, and do not account for the variety of factors that can impact nutrient needs and uptake.

What is being proposed is a multi-million-dollar program that would not yield the information suggested in the bill language, nor be relevant in terms of addressing issues with groundwater contamination.

This issue deserves a robust, collaborative discussion with producers and other experts, not a misguided concept put together in a vacuum by urban legislators who have no background in agriculture.

The bill reflects a glaring lack of understanding of both crop nutrition science and groundwater impacts. It is simply bad policy.