



February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

The Honorable Senator Golden,  
900 Court St NE, S-421  
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Opposition to Oregon Senate Bill 747

Dear Senator Golden,

On behalf of the Oregon Seed Association (OSA), we write to express our strong opposition to Senate Bill 747. As representatives of Oregon's vital seed industry, we are deeply concerned about the bill's implications and the negative impact it would have on our farmers, landowners, and agricultural economy.

Our primary concerns with SB 747 include the following:

1. **Poorly Drafted Legislation** – The bill, as written, lacks the clarity and structure necessary for effective implementation. Critical details regarding enforcement, oversight, and compliance requirements remain vague, creating uncertainty for farmers and agricultural businesses.
2. **Lack of Understanding of Agricultural Practices** – SB 747 demonstrates a fundamental disconnect from the realities of modern farming and seed production. Oregon's agricultural community follows rigorous, science-based best practices to ensure environmental stewardship and sustainability. This bill, however, introduces requirements that are impractical and fail to recognize existing industry standards and regulatory frameworks.
3. **Absence of Stakeholder Buy-In** – Effective policymaking requires collaboration with those directly affected. Unfortunately, this bill was drafted without meaningful input from landowners, farmers, and agricultural experts. By bypassing key voices in the discussion, SB 747 disregards the practical challenges faced by those who work the land daily.
4. **Costly and Ineffective Program** – Implementing SB 747 would establish an expensive regulatory program that fails to yield meaningful, actionable data. Additionally, the financial burden of compliance would disproportionately affect small and mid-sized farms, straining an already challenged industry.

For these reasons, the Oregon Seed Association urges you to oppose SB 747 and instead work toward legislation that engages stakeholders, reflects the realities of agricultural practices, and provides practical, cost-effective solutions. We stand ready to collaborate on efforts that support Oregon's farming community while ensuring responsible environmental stewardship.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter further and provide industry insights that can contribute to sound policymaking.

Sincerely,

Karen Withers  
Executive Director  
Oregon Seed Association  
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