



Vote No on SB 747

SB 747 is an extreme and unachievable proposal that reflects a lack of understanding of crop nutrition science and groundwater impacts. The bill proposes a multi-million dollar statewide reporting system for fertilizer use in an effort to “identify persons who are overapplying fertilizer” and impose civil penalties on violators. However, there is a glaring disconnect between the bill’s stated goals and how it proposes to achieve them.

SB 747 would NOT yield the results outlined in the bill itself, nor would it have any marked impact in areas with legacy nitrate contamination.

- **Fertilizer rates vary widely** based on crop, soil type, irrigation, weather, season, and other factors. Rates alone cannot determine overapplication. Standardized guidance on rates is not available, due to the many factors impacting nutrient needs and uptake. *Rates can vary even between different varieties of the same crop.*
- **Fertilizer is a very expensive input**, with costs skyrocketing in recent years. Producers are already disincentivized from applying any more than is needed.
- **200 acres is an arbitrary number** with no connection to data or evidence. This is just **another attack on big vs small**, which has no basis in science or public health.
- This concept **unnecessarily punishes agricultural landowners in every corner of the state** for historic issues in one region.

Our members and organizations have been productively identifying and implementing solutions to nitrate contamination in the Lower Umatilla Basin, and we continue to work with agencies and partners on meaningful solutions. This bill ignores years of research and collaborative work and sidesteps what needs to be a robust and scientific process.

Oregon producers are already over-burdened with unworkable regulations, and our state is losing family farms and ranches because of it. This bill is based on a false premise and proposes an expensive and impractical program. This policy harms farm and ranch families and has no meaningful connection to agricultural practices.

VOTE NO SB 747

Contact: Rocky Dallum: rocky.dallum@tonkon.com; Jenny Dresler: jenny@pacounsel.com
Nicole Mann nicole@daltonadvocacy.com; Katie Murray: katiemurray@ofsonline.org

2/1/2025