

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

Chairman Golden, Vice Chairman Nash and committee,
My name is Scott Zielinski with Windsor Island Company, LLC in Salem, OR. I attended yesterday's hearing for SB747 to listened in on both supporting and opposing statements for this senate bill and have concluded that the issues raised seemed regionally specific. I feel as though adding additional costs to the Oregon Department of Agriculture is unreasonable, and the issues in the Umatilla Basin should be handled locally pertaining to their specific nitrate contaminations. Sandy soils and shallow, poorly maintained wells are the most susceptible channels for nitrate contamination in them. Local governments and communities with contamination history are better off using resources to enhance their water quality using technology, updating infrastructure, and assist community members with their existing water systems.

It is obvious with yesterday's remarks from the side of opposition that fertilizer use throughout the state is far more complicated than the bill's sponsors' expectations. Complicated data collection will produce bad data and heavy burdens on the ODA and farm operations.

There is no need for another regulatory arm in the Oregon Department of Agriculture. People in Oregon's ag community need the department to be a partner in farming business endeavors, not a partner of hindrance.

Thank you for your time,
Scott Zielinski