

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

Chair Golden and committee members,

I write to oppose SB747 and ask that you do not move this bill forward. I write as a mom and a farmer, and I also have a major from Oregon State University in Crop and Soil Sciences. From what I have heard, agronomists or farmers were never consulted or brought into this discussion. I would have to think this is a failed concept from the beginning for this very reason. I oppose this for many reasons, but specifically 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 crop and soil type, weather, and a list of other factors. Rates alone cannot determine overapplication, and there is no standardized guidance on rates based on the variety of factors that impact nutrient needs and uptake. Agronomic rates vary even between different varieties of the same crop.
- The concept as drafted reflects a lack of understanding of both crop nutrition science and groundwater impacts.
- 200 acres is an arbitrary number with no connection to data or evidence.
- What is being proposed here is a multi-million dollar program that would not yield the information suggested in the bill language.
- This issue deserves a robust discussion with producers and experts.

Thank you for your time,
Macey Wessels