



OREGONIANS FOR FOOD & SHELTER

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A non-profit coalition to promote the efficient production of quality food and fiber while protecting human health, personal property and the environment, through the integrated, responsible use of pest management products, soil nutrients and biotechnology.

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March 19, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

Re: Opposition to HB 2960

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2960. Oregonians for Food & Shelter (OFS) is a diverse coalition with members across Oregon's natural resource sector, including many of Oregon's agricultural commodity groups and the forest products industry, as well as manufacturers of the tools our producers use to grow food and fiber. Our members come together around the importance of pesticides, fertilizers, and biotechnology in producing and protecting natural resources. OFS advocates for science-based policy, innovation, and stewardship related to these tools.

Since the passage of SB 582 during the 2021 Legislative Session, OFS has worked to represent our agricultural chemical manufacturer members in DEQ's implementation process for Oregon's Recycling Modernization Act (RMA). The legislation requires producers of certain packaging to fund recycling of those products, and this funding is intended to contribute to expansion of recycling facilities and services, among other things. As many of you are aware, the process to implement this legislation has been complex, multi-year, and expensive.

This bill would result in a prohibition on Oregon's sole facility for agricultural plastic waste recycling, without clear justification, and contrary to ongoing state investments in Oregon's plastic recycling infrastructure. Due to contamination and weathering issues, agricultural plastics require chemical recycling as opposed to mechanical recycling. Without local facilities, these plastics would simply end up in landfills.

The industry-funded [Ag Container Recycling Council](#) (ACRC) is now formally included in Oregon's RMA (ORS 459A.860 TO 459A.975), based on ACRC's ongoing container recycling program within the state, which relies on local infrastructure for collection, processing, and recycling. We want to recognize the long history of container stewardship efforts in Oregon through the ACRC, resulting in over 10 million pounds of agricultural chemical containers being recycled in the state over the last 30+ years. Please protect Oregon's existing recycling infrastructure and longstanding industry-funded recycling efforts, and vote no on this proposal.

Respectfully,

Katie Murray
Executive Director