From: catie faryl [mailto:catiefaryl@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 9:45 PM
To: Sen Roblan
Subject: FW: Written comments to the Senate Committee, Rural Communites and Economic Development, regarding Senate Bill 633

Please forward this to Senator Baertschiger. I tried emailing it three different ways, but couldn't get it to him

Thanks, Catie Faryl

From: catiefaryl@hotmail.com

To: <u>sen.arnieroblan@state.or.us</u>; <u>sen.hermanbaetschigerjr@state.or.us</u>; <u>sen.alanbates@state.or.us</u>; <u>sen.ginnyburdick@state.or.us</u>; <u>sen.betsyclose@state.or.us</u>

Subject: Written comments to the Senate Committee, Rural Communites and Economic Development, regarding Senate Bill 633

Date: Mon, 11 Mar 2013 21:25:37 -0700

Written Comments for Senate Committee regarding Senate Bill 633, Public Hearing March 12, 2013

Honorable Committee Chairman Senator Robland and Committee Members,

The issue of Seeds is truly the debate of our time; it brings all differences of belief and opinion to Common Ground. Seeds represent our Sovereignty and are at the core of freedom. Seeds are the true wealth given to all people, not to just a few patent holders. "Under all is the Land"* is a main theme of our democratic system therefore legislation that privatizes land, water, seed and genes or puts them under the auspices of Big Government involves the great risk of undermining the biological, social and economic stability and survivability of our State and our Country.

It is unwise to tamper with the basic patterns established by Mother Nature. Evidence is mounting that foreshadows vast consequences if our State goes "retrograde" by supporting the trajectory of chemical and monoculture food-growing systems while the rest of the world is implementing more successful practices. France, Peru and many other countries have banned or are tightly controlling genetic modifications and breaking the addictive cycle created by dependence on fossil fuel, out of which the industrial-agricultural complex sprung at the end of the Great Depression and the beginning of World War II.

As an artist and writer who observes and illustrates trends and envisions positive solutions, I see SB 633 as counterproductive to the future of our economy and a disconnection from the rising potential, in fact the necessity, of returning to sane agriculture practices under local control.

It is difficult for me to believe multi-national seed and pesticide companies' claims that their actions are altruistic and that they just "want to Feed the Planet" when the legacy of DDT and other petroleumbased, Big Oil-subsidiary products have been known as carcinogenic, environmentally dangerous moneymakers since Rachel Carson wrote "The Silent Spring" in 1962. The use of DDT was banned in America in 1972, yet farmers were not encouraged to taper off chemical fertilizers and sprays at that time, but were instructed and directed to use and abuse different ag-drugs. Films like "Fresh" demonstrate how the resurgence of sustainable practices on small family farms is providing more nutritious foods and a lifestyle that is attracting new young farmers to our State.

Right now we have the opportunity to reverse the addiction to genetically modified seeds, Round Up Ready and other chemical products being used in large scale farming that actually give less yield and worse outcomes than what Nature, when respected and understood, can provide. Let's show some leadership and forward thinking like Vermont, a leader in wise initiatives across America, and many other States who are applying heavy restrictions on GMOs, requiring labeling and seeking bans. Southern Oregon is known for its organic and gmo-free foods and lifestyle and the trend across the country and the world is also moving in that direction. We want to keep our State an attractive destination for tourists and new residents. (One out of six people I spoke with while canvassing had just moved to the Rogue Valley because of our relatively clean food, water, and air – their health is demanding it!)

Removing local control of these issues could have significant economic impact due to more farm failures, decreased allure for tourists, and backlash against all exports of edible and grow-able products from America. We will be unable maintain a regional open pollinated seed crop, which in the future may be more valuable than gold or any other wealth.

As a parent, and someone who cares deeply about people and all sentient beings, I am not buying, serving or consuming the products in question. I'd like my future grandchildren to enjoy a healthy Rogue Valley childhood, and along with thousands of concerned citizens I will continue working to co-create the very best future for Oregon. I ask the Senate Committee to please reject Senate Bill 633. Sincerely, Catie Faryl

Co-Founder, Center for Creative Change and the Chamber of Commons P.O.Box 1473

Phoenix, Oregon (541) 535-1854 <u>www.catiefaryl.net</u>

Here are some sources for more information:

U.S.A. produces 53% of GMO crops compared tiny fractions in other countries:

www.ornl.gov/sci/tech/resources

www.genomic.energy.gov

Places where GMOs have been banned:

www.organicconsumers.org/gefood/countrieswithbans.cfm

current.com/.../93975745_peru-bans-genetically-modified-foods-as-...

www.purezing.com/living/toxins/living_toxins_gmofoods.html

Information about health concerns and diseases linked to GMOs:

www.naturalnews.com

www.responsibletechnology.org

Jeffrey Smith, author of Seeds of Deception and short video summarizing it at

www.articles.marcola.com

www.gmofreeworldblogspot.com

www.fridayharborholistichealth.com

www.vitalissues.info

Videos related to these issues:

"Alcohol can be a Gas" – makes the connection between Big Oil, the destruction of high grade farm fuels through Prohibition and the orchestrated addiction of America to fossil fuels "The Future of Food"

"Genetic Roulette"

"Fresh"

* Under all is the Land – from National Association of

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