

March 15, 2016

Re: Testimony for Support of HB 2739

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing this letter to express support for **HB 2739** for the hearing on March 16, 2017 in front of the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Herb Pharm is a leading organic grower and producer of medicinal herbs, based in the town of Williams in Josephine County, OR. We employ approximately 100 individuals Our company was established in 1979 and we have risen to the #1 brand of liquid herb extracts sold in natural food stores across the United States.

Herb Pharm built its reputation on the quality and purity of the herbal products we produce. The purity of our herbs we achieve though our "seed to shelf" vertical integration is a key competitive differentiator in the marketplace. Organic, and by extension, non-GMO status is the foundation of our purity claims.

The maintenance and protection of GE-free farming operations is of critical importance. The damage caused by incidental GE contamination would be immeasurable to our business and significantly jeopardize our ability to continue to grow and to offer jobs and benefits to our employees and their families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Gillette
Director of Marketing

On behalf of Herb Pharm, LLC