

Dear Oregon House Committee on Rules, Chair Holvey & Members of the Committee:

I am writing to request your support for HB 2882. My name is Cyndi Karp. Oregon Ecosystem Advocate supporting Ecosystem Best Management Principals, Practices, Policies, Prevention, Protection & Restoration for Nature & Humans.

HB 2882 was written to create patent holder or manufacturer liability for genetically engineered (GE) contamination events in Oregon. **Over the past decade, GE contamination events & threats of contamination have cost U.S. farmers billions of dollars—including Oregon farmers—in rejected sales, lost exports & closed agricultural markets.** Oregon is one of the top 5 seed growing regions in the world. The specialty seed industry is valued at \$400 million and the vegetable specialty seed contained within that is worth \$50 million annually. Actual and potential GE contamination threatens seed industry.

Oregon farmers lack protections from GE contamination because Oregon does not regulate GE crops. Further, with the exception of Jackson County, all Oregon counties are preempted from making decisions regarding seed cultivation in their jurisdictions, leaving a large regulatory gap. I ultimately want to see patent holders & manufacturers held responsible for GE pollen drift contamination. So, farmers aren't pitted against farmers. Oregonians are long over due justice for their crops being contaminated by Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO). I also support legislation that calls for the regulation of GE & GMO crops in Oregon. Prevention & Protection for Oregon Industries of Seeds, Tilt Organic Farmers & Indigenous Flora, Fauna, including Pollinators from Cross Pollination Contamination by GE & GMO products.

Thank you for the full consideration HB 2882, with justice to injured parties from contamination from GE & GMO crops. I appreciate your service to Oregonians & accepting my testimony for the hearing on May 8th, 2019.

Sincerely,

Cyndi Karp,

Waldport, OR