

Submitter: Kathy Ging

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Measure: SB1532

RE: Support for SB 1532 February 9, 2022 1 of 2

To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE Room 347 Salem Oregon 97301

OSU Extension & Economic Assessment of Oregon's Organic Sector

To the Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Kennemer and Committee Members:

My name is Kathy Ging MA, GRI, licensed Oregon Realtor 35 years, organic gardener 45+ years. Based in Eugene I facilitated rural property sales in 6 Oregon counties including over half the organic farms that sold in Eugene Farmers Market 20+ years ago, all but one still in business selling organic produce, value added products at this and other markets.

I have been the principal Realtor recommended by Oregon Tilth co-founder Harry MacCormack, Philomath, and by PeaceSeeds.com founder Dr. Alan Kapuler, Corvallis, to buyers seeking guidance in purchasing, transitioning properties to organic practices and certification in the Willamette Valley. Also facilitated sale of ranches and forestry parcels.

As a Realtor clients and I value services provided by OSU agents not only evaluating farm suitability but also providing crop advice. This service should be expanded.

A 45 year Oregon Tilth member, I served on Tilth Committees. I took OSU Master Gardener classes in Jackson+Lane Counties and have avocationally promoted LiberatedSalad.com a diverse garden of 100+ cultivars that can grow in the PNW's relatively benign climate West of the Cascades even in winter without protective coverings: One answer to world starvation.

Rodale Press publishers of Organic Gardening, other magazines, books marveled visiting here in early 80's at our West of the Cascades micro climate unique in the North. At that time I worked for tax exempt Amity Foundation as founding director of Oregon Energy Round-Up at the State Fair 1982-84.

Bill Head, Amity Foundation agricultural director working on his PhD at OSU, discovered that 5-7 times as much produce can grow year around in the Willamette Valley with simple bell cloches. Amity grew 100% organic hydroponic tomatoes winning blue ribbons at Lane County Fair growing in a 100% heated solar heated plastic greenhouse with gray water system and tilapia fish. His books: Gardening Under Cover and Fish Farming in Your Solar Greenhouse still available.

Community Skills Bank principal founder in Southern Oregon mid 70s and co-founder of Southern Oregon New Energy Institute SUNERGI in which capacity both organizations solicited, received Extension advice and participation for The 1st Southern Oregon Energy Fair: Visions for Humanity, 1977 later neighborhood energy fairs. An OSU agent was on Community Skills Bank Board of Directors.

A consultant to Oregon Country Fair Energy Park aka Energy Horizons starting 1981 it included agricultural, permaculture booths a popular educational exhibit for hundreds of thousands. Many of the thousands of pamphlets distributed came from OSU research, connections.

Besides helping clients in several nonprofit and business sector capacities I and nonprofits for which I served as director or board member continually tapped OSU Home Horticultural and Commercial Agriculture agent services seeking reliable information on diverse topics.

I learned from Bill Mollison cofounder of permaculture at a workshop importance of creating swales to create moisture in country properties especially effective in arid times, areas. This information should be learned and disseminated!

(Cont. on 2 of 2. If unable to submit Part 2 due to 4000 character limit: pls. support this bill! Kathy Ging MA, GRI Amethyst Realty LLC POB 11245 Eugene OR