



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

August 14, 2013

The Honorable Kate Brown
Secretary of State
136 State Capitol
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Secretary Brown:

Today, I have signed Enrolled House Bill 2427 relating to canola and I am writing to express my expectations regarding implementation of the bill. As you know, this legislation directs Oregon State University (OSU) and the Oregon Department of Agriculture to conduct further research regarding the effects of growing canola in the Willamette Valley. In particular, section 4 of this bill requires OSU to conduct research that will require the cooperation of the Willamette Valley Specialty Seed Association (WVSSA) and its members. The elements of that required cooperation are set out in the "Cooperative Agreement on Canola Research Principles/Issues," between OSU, ODA and the WVSSA.

The public record for HB 2427 includes the Research proposal submitted by OSU in conjunction with this legislation. As taken directly from the proposal, "The outcome of this research will be to provide data for the legislative process on the production of canola for seed within the Willamette Valley and to determine if canola should be regulated differently than the other Brassicacea species. In order to conduct a valid scientific study with defendable results, all of the elements need to be included. Our null hypothesis for this work will be that if there are no significant differences in pest incidence or volunteer plant occurrence among radish, turnip and canola fields of similar size, then these crops should be treated equitably in any regulatory processes." The specific objectives for the research include:

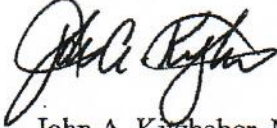
1. Conduct a comprehensive literature review of Brassicacea production;
2. Monitor 5 fields of canola, turnip and radish over 3 years. This objective will require on-going cooperation from specialty seed growers for access to fields of radish, turnip and Brassica specialty seed crops;
3. Map the Willamette Valley for available acres to determine how many acres of Brassicacea species can be grown and still maintain the viability of the specialty seed industry. Mapping with require access to data held by the WVSSA.

It is my expectation in signing this legislation that the WVSSA and its members will cooperate in the specified manner. If that cooperation is not forthcoming, I will work with interested legislators to resolve conflicts between the specialty seed industry and canola growers,

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recognizing that the specialty seed industry has made it impossible to base that resolution on productive research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Kitzhaber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

LJR/smg