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Chair Helm and members of the committee,

Oregon Farm Bureau Federation is proud to represent more than 6,600 family farmers and ranchers with diverse operations throughout each county in Oregon.

Thank you Chair Helm and Representative Scharf for your work to engage stakeholders on this issue.

I served as a member of the Dept of Agriculture's workgroup that resulted from SB 789 last year and was surprised to see the language in the -7 given a cap on GE acreage wasn't part of the workgroup conversations.

OFB is a grassroots-run organization, and our members develop policy from the ground up. Our brassica seed crop policy states:

*Brassica Seed Crops 10.715: "We support the ability of the Oregon Department of Agriculture to regulate the production of brassica crops to manage seed production regarding cross-pollination, disease & pests. Regulation should be based on the best available science and treat all species and subspecies the same, unless unique pest, disease & weed aspects exist. Any system used to identify fields must have accessibility for all growers."*

Adoption of the -7 amendment would signal that the legislature and this committee is in the business of picking winners and losers and not for legitimate safety concerns but based on political pressure.

Unfortunately, our members are all too familiar with political fights and being targeted for their production practices.

Again, we appreciate your dedication trying to sort out this mess and we continue to be open to conversations.

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