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On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB747

The bill reflects a glaring lack of understanding of both crop nutrition science and groundwater impacts. It is simply bad policy.

Fertilizer is a very expensive input, with costs skyrocketing in recent years. Producers are already disincentivized from applying more than is needed.

Fertilizer rates vary widely based on soil type, crop and crop rotation, weather, and a host of other factors. Rates alone cannot determine overapplication, and do not account for the variety of factors that can impact nutrient needs and uptake.

What is being proposed is a multi-million dollar program that would not yield the information suggested in the bill language, nor be relevant in terms of addressing issues with groundwater contamination.

It is obvious that the introduction of this bill proves that there is a disconnect between the law makers and the reality of what is going on in the real world and that they do not understand economics or farming at all.

This issue deserves a robust, collaborative discussion with producers and other experts, not a misguided concept put together in a vacuum by urban legislators who have no background in agriculture.