



February 4, 2025

**TO:** Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire  
**FR:** Sharla Moffett, Oregon Business & Industry  
**RE:** SB 747

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Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash and Members of the committee:

For the record, my name is Sharla Moffett, senior policy director for Oregon Business & Industry (OBI).

OBI is a statewide association representing businesses from a wide variety of industries and from each of Oregon's 36 counties. In addition to being the statewide chamber of commerce, OBI is the state affiliate for the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Retail Federation. Our 1,600 member companies, more than 80% of which are small businesses, employ more than 250,000 Oregonians. Oregon's private sector businesses help drive a healthy, prosperous economy for the benefit of everyone.

OBI opposes SB 747, which establishes an enforceable program regulating the fertilizer growers apply to crops.

SB 747 puts the Legislature in charge of telling farmers how to farm with a one-size-fits-all approach to fertilizer use. Fertilizing a melon crop in northeast Oregon is vastly different than what hops in the mid-Willamette Valley need. And peppermint grown in Jefferson County is going to have different fertilizer needs than wine grapes in Douglas County or Christmas trees in Clackamas County. The crop, soil type, irrigation, weather, season and other factors determine type and volume of fertilizer application. Growers conduct soil testing and apply crop science

The cost of fertilizer alone is a major deterrent to over-application. Growers start by testing soil nutrient concentrations and then factor in myriad growing conditions before determining the composition and volume of fertilizer to be applied. This is not a circumstance in which "if a little bit is good, more is better." Growers must protect their crop investment by applying what they determine to be an appropriate amount of fertilizer, but over applying it is just a bad business decision.

SB 747 doesn't attempt to address the nitrate issue in *one* region of the state. Rather it applies a broad-brush approach to *every* crop in *every* part of the state.

We urge you to oppose the punitive regulatory program proposed by SB 747.

Contact: Sharla Moffett at [sharlamoffett@oregonbusinessindustry.com](mailto:sharlamoffett@oregonbusinessindustry.com)