

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

My name is Brenda Frketich and I am a third generation farmer from St. Paul. My farm is both sustainable and diverse and includes many specialty crops that are grown in the Willamette Valley. I listened to the bill sponsor talk about being a mom, and how she had heard from moms in the Umatilla basin regarding drinking water. I have been raised on our family farm and continue to raise my children on that same farm, drinking and using the water. Every farm and farmer I know can say the same.

I am writing today to ask that you not move this bill forward. From what I understand, this bill was drafted without input from the agricultural community and is being rushed forward without proper stakeholder engagement. I have many issues with this bill, but will state only a few here:

- 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 crop and soil type, weather, and a list of other factors. Rates alone cannot determine overapplication, and there is no standardized guidance on rates based on the variety of factors that impact nutrient needs and uptake. Agronomic rates vary even between different varieties of the same crop.
- The concept as drafted reflects a lack of understanding of both crop nutrition science and groundwater impacts.
- 200 acres is an arbitrary number with no connection to data or evidence.

Thank you for your time.

Brenda