

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

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire:

My name is Becky Mundt and I am a fruit and nut tree and berry nursery owner from Eugene. I am writing today to support SB 747. It is so important that we do everything we can to control the groundwater contamination in sensitive areas. Groundwater Management Areas have already been designated by the state as having dangerous levels of contaminants. Not only does this hurt the people living here, taking away their assurance of clean drinking water, but it also impacts the environment and wildlife in the area, and threatens the ability of land to remain productive. This bill has been carefully crafted to apply to farms with 200 acres or more, who likely already track their fertilizer application, and it is not an enforcement or penalty bill. This is simply to make sure ODA has the information to advise farmers on programs and best practices that would help them not only protect water quality but save money on inputs.

This personally impacts me and everyone in Oregon because when our ground water is contaminated it destroys living soil systems, waterway habitat and our drinking water. We live on a well water system, and so we depend on clean water moving into our aquifer.

Asking farmers with over 200 acres to track and report fertilizer use is not an additional burden, they do this anyway, but by reporting what they already know to the ODA they can get a different perspective that may not only reduce their inputs but save them money and improve their outcomes. This is not a hardship, it is a responsibility they already have to the waterways and natural environment around them.

Losing access to safe drinking water is no joke. We must take this responsibility seriously and commit to doing whatever we can to ensure clean and safe drinking water for future generations as well as responsibly stewarding our lands and farms for the best outcomes for all of us.

Please pass SB 747

Thank you,

Becky Mundt  
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