

Dear Channa
March 15, 2017

Dear Channa Newell

Please support HB 2739, to protect farmers and communities from contamination by genetically modified crops by holding patent holders responsible. We don't know what kind of damage GMO foods do to us because journals and media pressure scientists who stand up against the "GMOs are safe" viewpoint. An article in the Scientific American in 2013 states:

Schubert joins Williams as one of a handful of biologists from respected institutions who are willing to sharply challenge the GM-foods-are-safe majority. Both charge that more scientists would speak up against genetic modification if doing so did not invariably lead to being excoriated in journals and the media. These attacks, they argue, are motivated by the fear that airing doubts could lead to less funding for the field. Says Williams: "Whether it's conscious or not, it's in their interest to promote this field, and they're not objective."

Both scientists say that after publishing comments in respected journals questioning the safety of GM foods, they became the victims of coordinated attacks on their reputations. Schubert even charges that researchers who turn up results that might raise safety questions avoid publishing their findings out of fear of repercussions. "If it doesn't come out the right way," he says, "you're going to get trashed."

I am a vegetable farmer in Portland, Oregon, and I would like to keep my garden safe from GMOs. Please distribute my comments to committee members.

Sincerely,
Melanie Rios
Portland, Oregon 97215