

**From:** Lindy Colvin  
**To:** [HRULES Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support HB 2739  
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## **I desperately urge you to SUPPORT HB 2739.**

Food isn't a commodity, it's an everyday necessity and what we grow, distribute, and eat seriously and critically impacts our health, ecosystems, and economies. Yet we no longer know what we are putting into our bodies and soils nor do we know the political methods by which it arrived at our plates. This is the direct result of the recent and unprecedented conglomeration of biotech Industries, which collectively have the financial power to lobby away the life-saving truths and research that would limit profit margins or deter product consumption. They are infringing on our right to non-toxic, non-synthetic food and we need to protect the farmers that are offering healthy, sustainable alternatives.

A genetically modified organism is the result of a laboratory process where genes from the DNA of one species are extracted and artificially forced into the genes of an unrelated plant or animal. Shockingly, the inserted genes may come from bacteria, viruses, insects, animals or even humans. They are absolutely horrific chemical and biological experiments that wreck environmental chaos, threatening biodiversity and our future food security. Furthermore, in the thirty years since their creation, we have suffered skyrocketing rates of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, infertility, and cancer.

HB 2739 is not a GMO ban. It in no way harms GMO farmers. In fact, it protects *all* farmers- organic farmers from economic loss, and GMO farmers from being sued for contamination. Individual farmers are not responsible for crop contamination which happens naturally. Wind, storms, and birds are beyond anyone's control. However, companies invented these incredibly aggressive and resistant Franken-organisms with only one thing in mind: monopolizing profit.

**Biotech companies blatantly disregarded the rules of nature and the potential consequences of GMOs. They are externalizing their costs by underhandedly forcing farmers to pay for the ecological damage caused by their products.** These are the companies that invented Agent Orange, Dioxin, DDT, and PCPs. They are felonious and we need to start holding them accountable. Please do not be bought out.

The opposition argues that this bill will discourage biotech companies from selling GMO varieties in Oregon for fear of patent liability and lawsuits. And yet they insist coexistence works. If coexistence actually worked, then they wouldn't expect such lawsuits and pullouts! Oregon does not need more research and innovation in GMO varieties. The demand for GMOs is decreasing as the demand for organic is rapidly climbing. We should not invest in crops that are in market decline and are toxic to our bodies and ecosystems.

**We need to protect *all* Oregonian farmers by placing contamination liability on the those who are actually responsible.**

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please Support HB 2739.

-Lindy Colvin, Portland Resident