

Calling all supporters of our **GMO FREE ZONE!**

Oregon House Bill 2469, recently introduced in the Oregon legislature, would return local control of GMO crops to the counties.

HB 2469 provides the legislative means for Josephine County to enforce the Genetically Engineered Plant Ordinance.



Oregonians for Safe
Farms and Families

We have a short window of opportunity to help make this bill a success.

Representative Carl Wilson, Representative Duane Stark, and Senator Herman Baertschiger want to know what *you* think about HB 2469. Now is the time to let them know!

Please send a letter ASAP (paper is best, email second best) and follow up with a phone call. If you are one of the more than 16,000 people who voted yes for the Genetically Engineered Plant Ordinance, now is the time to make your voice heard once again. If you are new to Josephine County and understand the benefits of a GMO Free Zone to the economy and food future of our citizenry, now is the time to reach out to your representatives.

The will of the people is currently being denied in OUR County. Your letter, your email, your phone call can help to change that. Please help turn this bill into reality by taking action today. An avalanche of letters, emails, and phone calls from Josephine County citizens to our Oregon representatives will make our collective voice heard. Paper (snail mail) is the BEST, email is also good, and a phone call alone is fine if that's all you have time to do.

Please write a letter to each of our representatives and send a copy to Mary Middleton:
marymiddleton@osff.org or mail to OSFF, PO Box 1183, Grants Pass, OR 97528

The first line of your letter should say:

I am writing to ask you to SPONSOR HB 2469.

Samples of other kinds of things you can include:

I am a _____ (farmer, business owner, citizen, etc) and I live in Josephine County.

I am a business owner with ___ employees and an annual revenue of _____. HB2469 will help me to continue to grow my business through marketing related to our GMO Free Zone.

HB2469 provides the legislative means for Josephine County to enforce the Genetically Engineered Plant Ordinance passed by local citizens in May 2014. I voted for it, and I am asking you to be a legislative hero for Josephine County and stand up for the will of the people. Please sponsor this bill on behalf of Josephine County.

HB2469 will protect our family farms in Josephine County. We are a unique bioregion with mostly small farms, many of them growing seeds. HB2469 will help protect our farmers from the threat of contamination via pollen drift (through no fault of their own). Please sponsor this bill on behalf of Josephine County.

Local control of agriculture makes sense. Every growing region is different. The ability to implement the Genetically Engineered Plant Ordinance will protect the family farmers of Josephine County as well as our many home gardeners. Please sponsor this bill on behalf of Josephine County.

Thank you for voting yes on this bill. I hope we can count on you to be our legislative champion by signing on as a sponsor of this bill.

Sincerely,

Your Name and City

To: Rep. Carl Wilson
900 Court St. NE, H-390
Salem, Oregon 97301
Email: Rep.CarlWilson@state.or.us
Ph: 503-986-1403, 541-476-7896

To: Rep. Duane Stark
900 Court St NE, H-372
Salem, OR 97301
Email: Rep.DuaneStark@oregonlegislature.gov
Ph: 503-986-1404, 541- 237-9851

To: Sen. Herman Baertschiger Jr.
900 Court St NE, S-403
Salem, OR 97301
Email: Sen.HermanBaertschiger@oregonlegislature.gov
Ph: 503-986-1702, 541-787-1702

History - The Josephine County Genetically Engineered Plant Ordinance (our citizen-led initiative) passed with 58.2% voter approval in May of 2014. Since then, Josephine County was sued in an attempt to overturn the ordinance. Judge Wolke ruled in favor of the plaintiff despite the defense put forward by interveners Oregonians for Safe Farms and Families and Siskiyou Seeds. OSFF and Siskiyou Seeds are in the process of appealing that decision. **This is why we need our representatives to SPONSOR this bill. HB 2469 provides the legislative means for Josephine County to enforce the Genetically Engineered Plant Ordinance.**