



Locally Grown
and
GROWING STRONG

March 13, 2025

Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs
Oregon Legislature

RE: Support for SB 1023 and Amendments

Chair Manning Jr., Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:

Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB) is the state's most inclusive agriculture organization, proudly representing over 6,500 family farms and ranches that produce more than 220 agricultural commodities. From hops and hazelnuts to cattle, cranberries, and timber with operations spanning from just a few acres to thousands, our members utilize all farming methods including organic, conventional, regenerative, biotech, and even no-tech.

OFB appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 1023 and its proposed amendments. We support efforts to protect Oregon's farmland, water resources, and natural assets from the control of those foreign interests who may seek to do harm to the United States.

Oregon's farmers and ranchers rely on access to land and water to produce food, support rural economies, and contribute to both state and national security. It is critical that these resources remain in the hands of those who are invested in the long-term viability of our agricultural industry. The intent of SB 1023 aligns with this priority by ensuring that foreign adversaries are not able to acquire farmland, mineral rights, or water rights in Oregon.

The principle of reciprocity is a key element of this legislation. Just as some foreign governments restrict U.S. citizens from owning land in their countries, it is reasonable for Oregon to establish similar protections for our own resources. Ensuring fair and consistent standards for land ownership helps protect our agricultural infrastructure from undue foreign influence.

We appreciate the leadership on this important issue and support the effort to provide clear protections for Oregon's land and water. As the bill is considered and moves forward, we also recognize the importance of ensuring its implementation is clear, practical, and

does not result in any unintended consequences. Thus, we would welcome the opportunity to work with the sponsor to address a few areas of concern, including safeguarding private property rights, ensuring due process in enforcement, and clarifying how restrictions apply to legal residents engaged in agriculture. Additionally, we encourage consideration of a streamlined process for verifying buyer eligibility to minimize unintended burdens on Oregon's farmers and landowners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RJ Krabill".

Ryan J. Krabill
Oregon Farm Bureau