

KRISTI FURMAN
Clerk of the Board



TELEPHONE: (707) 463-4221
FAX: (707) 463-4245
E-MAIL: bos@co.mendocino.ca.us
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/bos

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
501 Low Gap Road • Room 1090
Ukiah, California 95482

June 28, 2005

The Honorable Jeff Denham
Chair, Senate Agriculture Committee
1020 N Street, Suite 244
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE AB 1508 (As Proposed to Be Amended) – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Denham and members of the Committee:

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors vigorously opposes any amendment language to State law that would limit or constrain the effect or function of Measure H, an existing ordinance passed by a large majority of Mendocino County voters.

Measure H pre-dates any such proposed amendment to the California Seed Law.

The California Constitution specifically guarantees the right of cities and counties to “make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws.” (Article XI, Section 7).

Further, the citizens of Mendocino County sponsored Measure H, a local anti-GMO use and propagation ordinance, by initiative process, which may not be undone or modified by local or state authority.

The right of the citizens or local authorities, such as cities and counties to establish a superior local protection within state law is well supported, and bears the same relation to State law as the California Environmental Quality Act does to the Federal Environmental Policy Act.

We strongly urge your NO vote on AB 1508.

Sincerely,

Michael Delbar
Chairman, Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

cc: Assemblyman Simon Salinas
Assemblyman Juan Arambula
Senator Don Perata
Senator (Chair) Jeff Denham
Senator Edward Vincent
Senator Deborah Ortiz
Senator Dean Florez
Senator Wesley Chesbro
Assemblymember Patty Berg
Don Peterson

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MICHAEL M. DELBAR
First District

JIM R. WATTENBURGER
Second District

HAL WAGENET
Third District

KENDALL SMITH
Fourth District

J. DAVID COLFAX
Fifth District