

Henry J. Tobin
Hop Grower Testimony

My name is Henry Tobin. I farm in the Mabton area, which is in the lower Lower Yakima Valley. I am a fairly new hop grower if you consider the fact that I am only a second generation grower.

I have been involved in hop production all my life. I have also been a producer which operated both with and without the regulations of a marketing order.

I am in support the over supply hop marketing order being proposed and am convinced that these proposals will put stability and profitability back into our marketing equation. I was also in support of the last marketing order and served as an alternate for two terms.

We would be classified as a small grower in this industry with production of high alpha varieties. The last two years we have left 100 percent of our yards idled and taken down some trellis with supplies being saved to be used at a later date when market conditions improve.

I would also like to confirm testimony presented earlier that both separate entities of which I am involved in, acquired one bale of hops each to try and preserve my voting right. My voting right is very important to me and feel that it would be an injustice if I were denied that right.

The "01" year in my judgement should be the year to use for the criteria for voting rights because in my opinion this is the last year that you could say very ^{Few} games were being ^{played} by growers to ^{improve} their personal situations regarding the marketing order.

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With this point in mind I would also recomend and prefer the department use the years 1997 thru 2002 in alocating alotment for the marketing order.

In conclusion I would like to say that I am very disappointed that this industry could not control their own destiny through voluntary methods. By making manditory regulations everyone will be placed on a more even playing field and maybe we can all get back to farming again.

Collectively I feel we will have a say in our own destiny , independently we will likely be part of the endangered species list.

Sincerely: Henry J. Tobin

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry J. Tobin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.