Oregon's GMO task force gets few answers from federal GMO regulators

An Oregon task force studying genetically modified crops and food grilled federal regulators at its meeting Thursday, but didn't get a lot of answers.

Ivan Maluski, director of Friends of Family Farmers, wanted to know whether federal law prohibits states from regulating genetically modified crops. Neither the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency nor the U.S. Department of Agriculture was able to answer.

"That really is a legal question," said Mike Firko, deputy administrator of USDA's biotechnology regulatory services.

Group members expressed frustration that a number of federal agencies regulate genetically modified crops and food, with little apparent coordination.

"Different agencies have a different piece of the puzzle," Maluski said. "They don't always overlap very well and I feel it leaves gaps."

Read the full, original article: Oregon task force grills federal GMO regulators