

April 7, 2015

TO: Representative Brian Clem
House Committee on Rural Communities, Land Use and Water

RE: HB3367 – Bike Paths on EFU Lands

Mr. Chairman and committee Members,

My wife and I are owners of a farm in Benton County. A bike path was proposed by Benton County extending from Corvallis to Albany. This 20 foot wide path would have been constructed largely on EFU land, resulting not only in loss of prime farmland but creating numerous obstacles and impediments to farm practices and health and safety issues for pathway users (exposure to chemicals, dust, honey bees, water sprinklers, pollens, large farm equipment, etc.)

Since HB67 would require such a path to go through a conditional land use permitting process from its inception, a number of ambiguities that were being exploited in the Benton County bike path would be eliminated.

We strongly recommend passage of HB 3367.

Thank you,

Stan and Louise Snyder
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