



133 SW Second Ave, Suite 201 • Portland, OR 97204 • (503) 497-1000 • fax (503) 223-0073 • www.friends.org  
Southern Oregon Office • PO Box 2442 • Grants Pass, OR 97528 • (541) 474-1155 • fax (541) 474-9389  
Willamette Valley Office • PO Box 51252 • Eugene, OR 97405 • (541) 520-3763 • fax (503) 223-0073

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

May 20, 2015

RE: HB 3367 -1 Amendments

Chair Edwards and members of the committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony opposing the -1 amendments to HB 3367. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that works with Oregonians to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice.

When HB 3367 was first offered it was unclear to many whether recreational trails were an outright permitted use or a conditional use on farmlands. If they are a conditional use the local government will generally do an analysis to determine if the route chosen unnecessarily damages farm operations. So why is this important?

Agriculture is Oregon's second largest industry: *1 out of 8 jobs in this state is agriculture-related*, and the industry is directly and indirectly linked to about \$22 billion in sales of goods and services, accounting for 15% of the statewide total of sales involving all industry sectors. *Agriculture is traded-sector* – 80% is sold out of state and 40% is exported out of the country, bringing new dollars into Oregon. And those figures have been increasing almost steadily for two decades. No other Oregon industry can tell that story.

1000 Friends of Oregon believes we should protect this key asset: agricultural land should stay in agricultural use to support Oregon second largest industry and the hundreds of thousands of Oregonians who depend on it. As this bill has been discussed it has become clear that recreational trails are a conditional use under the current statutory scheme. The base bill would merely clarify this in statute. The -1 amendments upset this and would result in poorly sited trails that are built for the least cost rather than to protect farm operations and the users of the trails from conflicts. This serves neither constituency.

Agriculture is an economic engine in Oregon. To protect the agricultural economy in Oregon 1000 Friends of Oregon opposes the -1 amendments to HB 3367. We urge you to either pass the base bill or simply table the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven D. McCoy".

Steven D. McCoy  
Farm and Forest Staff Attorney