

Jefferson County Farm Bureau 798 SE Dover Lane Madras, Oregon 97741

February 12, 2019

House Ag & Land Use Committee 900 SW Court Streets Salem, Oregon 973001

Oppose HB 2357

Dear Chairman Clem and Committee Members,

House bill 2357 insults the public process that Oregon is so proud to provide to the citizens of this great state. It is ironic that this hearing is being held two days before Oregon's birthday. If this bill passes it could be the first step towards attacking the public testimony at the legislature level for Oregon.

This bill has many impacts to our members; mainly requiring that you be physically present at a hearing to have standing for an appeal. Many of our members (farmers) would not be able to attend a hearing where now they can send in testimony as we are doing today before this committee. The second impact is that it states "lives" not as a property owner. An example is that I own property in Baker County yet I live in Jefferson County. We have members that own farm ground more than 25 miles from the "local government" within the county. Will a farm be classified as a "business"? Will the boundaries be marked with signage so the citizens will know the exact boundary in each direction?

We ask for you as committee members to not move this bill forward.

Sincerely,

Mickey Killingsworth

Mickey Killingsworth Secretary-Treasurer

Home of the North Unit Irrigation District