

From: [Patrick Fay](#)
To: [Exhibits HAGLU](#)
Cc: [Rep Fahey](#)
Subject: Farm Brewery Bill, Senate Bill 287
Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 12:24:46 AM

To all this concerns,

I have married into a farming family.
It's a small farm. About 50 acres.
It was founded in 1902 in the South Willamette Valley.
As you all should know, this is one of the earth's most productive and fertile valleys.

Some 80-100 years ago, no one knows for sure, hops were cultivated on this land.
There is an abundance of these feral hops on the eastern border of our land.
That area is heavily forested.
They are thriving back there, but my aim is move them to more arable tracts of our land.

Cascadia has long been a leader in hops production.
And Oregon has long been a leader in fostering craft brewing.
I am in full support of this bill, I want to make beer with these beautiful hops. I do have some exception in it's verbiage.
Why in the world would you want to foster a farm brewery but stop short of allowing said brewery to become a "brewpub"?
Farmland breweries may "sell items directly related to the sale or promotion of malt beverages produced in conjunction with the farm brewery, the sale of which is incidental to on-site retail sale of malt beverages, including food and beverages required to be made available in conjunction with the consumption of malt beverages on the premises by the Liquor Control Act or rules adopted under the Liquor Control Act." However, it also says that "food and beverage services may not utilize menu options or meal services that cause the kitchen facilities to function as a cafe or other dining establishment open to the public."

Come again? So you want to encourage this entrepreneurial aspect of farming, but you want to limit the food service aspect of it to chips and pretzels? I'm assuming?

Here? Amidst some of the most wondrously produced food on our planet, we'll relegate the public to salty snacks out of sealed bags.
Do you know how many of my neighbors sell grass fed beef? Not "Big Ag". Just small farmers who raise good beef.
One of my neighbors is Camas Country Mill. They produce some of the most amazing grains possible. They are utilized by the best chef's in the world. From Dan Barber of Blue Hill in NYC to scores of restaurants, bakeries and pizzerias throughout the PNW. They are about 4 miles from my farm. But I shouldn't bake a wood fired pizza with their amazing flour for my beer drinking guests because...?

We are at this crossroads in agriculture and culture because of our state's bounty and it's progressive attitude towards small business. Maybe you've seen the episode of Portlandia about the free range chicken? We're here right now because of this amazing intersection of culture and cuisine. People want to know where their food comes from. People want the best. And people need to ween themselves off of processed food. And small businesses are the real backbone of this country.

To foster a rural business like a farm brewery and then to handcuff it is thoughtless and lacks foresight.

In my opinion, an eatery should be encouraged.

At the end of the day we're talking about job creation.

We're talking about the proverbial, "rising tide", that floats all boats.

And in my personal case, we're talking about saving an Oregon Century Farm.

It's just about our only real hope to get out of debt and become solvent.

And why should rural folks have to go to the big city to see their products get treated properly? It doesn't make any sense.

I like a lot of the provisions in this bill. Keep things small. Keep big business out of this. Give small farmers more opportunity to survive. Agri-tourism is here to stay. Whether you like it or not. I've read that opponents of this bill state, "What's next? A hamburger stand on any farm parcel that has a couple of beef cattle?," Yes! What's wrong with that? And a veggie burger stand at the organic farm down the road. Why say "no" to that? And why limit someone visiting a farm brewery to pretzels? That's just dumb. We have all these great things at our fingertips and the legislature wants to specifically limit, restrict, and relegate a revenue stream that would only serve to foster more small farm success. How myopic.

Sincerely,

Patrick James Fay

Hentze Family Farm

Junction City, Oregon