

From: [Patrick Fay](#)
To: [Exhibits HAGLU](#)
Cc: [Rep Fahey](#)
Subject: Farm Brewery Bill, Senate Bill 287
Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 1:22:24 PM

Upon further reading of the text of the bill, it's still favoring big business over small business.

150,000 barrels is a lot of beer. Granted, that's the ceiling, but that's a lot of beer. Large scale craft breweries, or micro-breweries maybe might get up to 90,000 barrels, for example, Ninkasi out of Eugene.

That's four million gallons of beer.

Let's use the general equation for IPA beers. They're by far the most popular in the craft realm and so that's a good metric for hops usage. An acre of hops should produce about 2,000 pounds of dry hops. That's 1,000 barrels of IPA at the popular metric of 2 pounds per hops per barrel of IPA. So I do see where you get your 15 acre metric. 15 acres should be about 15,000 barrels.

But that's a ludicrous stranglehold on land and a very ill conceived metric for farm brewing.

The 30th largest brewery in Oregon did less than 3,000 barrels of beer last year. Or 1/5 of what has to be produced on a farm that has a brewery according to Bill 287.

And then there's the contiguous aspect? What the heck is that all about? Ok, you can open a brewery but only if you can convince your neighbor to grow hops as well?

This reeks of favoring big businesses. Rich land owners who want to fritter away their largess making crap beer they force their chums to choke down.

If I'm lucky... lucky... I might be able to eek out 6-8 acres of hops production on my farm. Going to the IPA metric we've established, that would mean a minimum of 6,000 barrels of IPA. Or, if you're paying attention, more than twice the production of Oregon's 30th largest beer producer.

Look, folks... I know you're trying to find some center ground... but you're still trampling the little farms here. We have an opportunity to be viable and you're putting your thumbs on the scale in favor of interests that are way beyond living wage levels.

To sum up:

1. 15 acres of hops produces enough hops for a farm brewery to immediately dwarf the production of Oregon's 30th largest brewery.
2. Per my last lobbying attempt, not allowing a restaurant in conjunction with a brewery is absurdly myopic. The Willamette Valley produces some of the best food in the world, but you want to restrict food service? That would restrict revenue, restrict job creation, restrict energizing rural economies. And further, it's just plain old dumb. D. U. M. B.

Sincerely,
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