

My name is Sheryl Stauffer and I am a 5th generation family farmer who grows hops and hazelnuts in Marion county. Small family run farms are struggling to survive in this current regulatory environment and we need support now more than ever. Farmers are price takers. We are unable to increase the price of our crop to cover more costs that have been imposed on us. Any cost added by the state goes right to our bottom line because consumers will go out of state and/or international sources that do not have these added imposed taxes/costs.

I support HB 2334 because the bill is about good governance. When a state agency creates a rule, it is supposed to prepare a statement identifying significant economic impacts on businesses. Clearly, Oregon's agencies are not taking this seriously! HB 2334 will help clarify how agencies are to analyze costs, meaningfully mitigate those impacts and require a cost analysis for even temporary rules. As we have seen during the COVID-19 pandemic, even the temporary regulations have a lasting impact on our small businesses and have put some out of business and others on the brink of ruin.

I support HB 2334 because it helps reinforce that Oregon's agencies need to consider the economic consequences of their rules on our small businesses and mitigate those impacts during the administrative process.

Please vote YES on HB 2334.

Thank you for your consideration.