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### **Testimony in Opposition to SB 1087**

Oregon Farm Bureau Federation  
Senate Committee on Rules  
April 6, 2023

Chair Lieber, Vice Chair Knopp and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Farm Bureau Federation appreciates the opportunity to submit written comments on behalf of our nearly 6,600 family farm and ranch members across the state of Oregon. We oppose SB 1087 which would allow “farm cafes” on land zoned for exclusive farm use (EFU) in Lane County.

Oregon Farm Bureau strongly believes that the limitation of non-farm activities is crucial to the integrity of the exclusive farm use zone, and though SB 1087 may be limited to Lane County, we oppose this type of inclusion of new non-farm use on lands properly zoned for EFU. Allowing a year-round restaurant on EFU is not a compatible use with our agricultural lands- nor is it an agritourism activity that is directly related to an on-farm experience. OFB encourages agritourism activities that actually connect people with agriculture.

When non agriculture activities and development is allowed on EFU then those engaged in production agriculture experience conflict that arises from non-compatible uses. Even if one could arguably say a “farm café” that is not required to feature ingredients from the farm tract on which it is located (the measure simply requires “products grown on the farm tract **or** within the local vicinity”) is agritourism- SB 1087 requires none of the protections that have already been laid out by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) that are necessary for food sales on farmland. This lack of sideboards will create conflict with neighboring farmlands, not to mention unfairly advantage the “farm café” by allowing it the benefit of having to only pay the EFU property tax amount while other restaurants are not afforded this same benefit.

Farming comes with noises, smells, dust and inconvenience. Restaurants come with diners, cars, and a ton of investment. SB 1087 has no sideboards on it- it is an open invitation for conflict and use of farmland that is outside of what it is designated for. We would encourage the committee to oppose this legislation. There is already a path for food sales on farmland. Thank you for your time.

Please email [lauren@oregonfb.org](mailto:lauren@oregonfb.org) with any questions related to these comments.