

## ALEX CUYLER

## Intergovernmental Relations Manager Alex.Cuyler@lanecountyor.gov

DATE: April 6, 2023

TO: Senate Committee on Rules

FROM: Alex Cuyler, Lane County Intergovernmental Relations Manager

RE: SB 1087, relating to farm cafes

Dear Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Knopp, and Members of the Committee:

Lane County supports SB 1087, which has been narrowly crafted to allow for farm grown food to be prepared for consumption on lands zoned for exclusive farmland within Lane County only. In spite of functioning advances in state law to promote agritourism in this State, farms still are limited in their ability to actually serve food to visitors that have been sourced from the farm or local region.

Farm breweries, cideries, and wineries under ORS Chapter 215 (.449, .451, and .452 respectively) are subject to the following limits (legislation passed in 2019, 2017, and 2009 respectively):

(4) A cider business {or farm brewery or winery} may include on-site kitchen facilities licensed by the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 624.010 to 624.121 for the preparation of food and beverages described in subsection (3)(c)\* of this section. Food and beverage services authorized under subsection (3)(c) of this section 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.

Additionally, HB 2516, relating to cannabisl market growth, is advancing this session. It allows for "cannabis tourism centers" to be located on lands zoned for exclusive farm use, and allows patrons to "consume a usable marijuana sample".

It seems like good public policy to ensure that locations where Oregon allows for beer, wine, cider, and marijuana grown on the farm to be consumed in the name of ecotourism should also allow farmers to offer food grown on farms to be prepared for consumption on site. Each of the underlying laws that support eco-tourism establish ample sideboards to protect the nature of farmland and farming, as does SB 1087.

Other states have allowed for robust "farm to fork" measures and the outcomes have served to support farmers while educating consumers about fresh, safe, and local food economies.

Lane County urges the Committee to advance this measure.

ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED BY ALEX CUYLER, LANE COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS MANAGER

<sup>\*</sup>specific events not open to the public