

Submitter: Barbara Talley

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and  
Water

Measure: HB4060

Dear Chair Helm and Committee Members,

I am writing today in support of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program and HB 4060. OAHP is the beginning of an investment that the state needs to make if it is truly going to support Oregon's community food systems and agricultural future. The conservation management plan and conservation easement portions of the program are great examples of supporting the farmer-driven desire to protect the ecosystems of our working lands in harmony with food production. We should make these tools available to as many farmers as possible.

My husband and I own a 60-acre farm in Junction City and I am very interested in exploring how to preserve our land from housing development through the use of a conservation easement so that it may continue to serve human and natural communities into the future. As we farmers face even more pressure from policies like the current housing bill SB 1537 and its proposal to sidestep current land use laws to expand the UGBs around the state, programs like OAHP become even more critical to provide us with the tools and resources to accomplish our conservation and ag land preservation goals.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Talley