

Submitter: Dani Brunswick

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3372

Co-chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water:

My name is Dani and I am from Corvallis. I am writing today to support HB 3372.

Currently in Oregon it is legal to water a ½ acre garden or use 5,000 gal/day for a commercial purpose, but neither of those apply to growing food and farm products for sale. It makes no sense to me that a neighbor cannot legally sell me produce that they have grown because it would mean illegal water use.

This personally impacts me because I want access to local food. I love going to small community farmers' markets and supporting small farm CSAs, but I'm hearing that these small local places are afraid of selling at markets. I have also heard of schools teaching children how to grow plants and how to operate a business, but being shut down because they're selling their plants. Yet these schools are allowed to have acres of irrigated lawns.

We need to be realistic about what we prioritize for water use in our state. Allowing people to grow food or farm products for sale with a gallon restriction on ½ acre will not bankrupt the system, and farming is too much work for people to rush into production on such a small scale. Give communities back the ability to feed and provide for themselves, pass HB 3372.

Thank you,
Dani Brunswick