

Submitter: Lily Hoodock

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3372

My name is Lily Hoodock and I am a community member from Cloverdale. 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. Why is it legal to use the water for personal use, but selling a single zucchini from my garden would mean I was breaking the law?

This personally impacts me because: I am committed to supporting our local food system and feel having a thriving local food economy is absolutely vital for the health, sustainability, and vitality of our planet, going forward. I buy as much food as I possibly can from local farmers and so many of these farmers have been affected by the outdated way that this law has been written. It has literally decreased the amount of people who are growing food here and our community and selling it to folks like me. This is not the direction we need to be going in. We must do everything we can, now more than ever, to support our existing local farmers and to increase accessibility to future farmers.

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,

Lily Hoodock
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