

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

Hi, this is Richard Sedlock from Cottage Grove, writing in full support of HB 3372-5. I am on the board of my local farmer's market, and could provide dozens of testimonials from community members who value the market and its provision of locally (and, in almost all cases which I am familiar, responsibly and often organically) grown produce. Allowing sales by small-scale growers with a gallon restriction on ½ acre parcels does not increase the overall water available for exempt use; it just allows people to sell food and farm products that are already legal to grow.

Why would Oregon want to make it illegal for small growers to sell, and thereby increase dependence on large-scale operations that often use just-in-time business tactics that expose them to supply-chain crises? In additions, large-scale growers usually apply far more synthetic substances to their crops, and have much larger carbon, energy, and ecological footprints than small-scale operations (e.g., “food miles”).

In challenging times like the present, enhanced local resiliency not only provides needed resources to local communities, but also reduces demands on state government for assistance. Please pass HB 3372-5.

Thank you,

Richard Sedlock
Cottage Grove