

Daniel Kerr

Keizer Equestrian Center, LLC

February 2, 2026

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Water, and Natural Resources.

Subject: Testimony in Support to HB 4153

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens and Members of the Committee:

Our real life problem with the current Road Side Farm stands in EFU zone code.

For small farmers – there are few options to sell farm products to wholesale buyers. Therefore, small farmers need to sell direct to the end consumer.

Marion County Planning approved us for a Road Side Farm stand. Then Marion County building permits required our Road Side Farm stand to be under Commercial building codes. To comply with those codes we spend about \$ 350,000 for the building.

It is hard to pay for a \$ 350,000 building selling sweet corn at 5 for a \$ 1.00 (many times that is all the customer purchased).

A few years later, Target and Lowes moved in a few blocks away. Then our Road Side Farm stand lost most of its customers. Since customers want to buy sweet corn, bread and coffee, etc. at one time. Or at Lowes, customers buy plants, potting soil, shovels, etc. at one time. If the customer came to our stand to buy plants – then they would have to go to Lowes to buy shovel, potting soil, etc. in other words, the customer would have to make two stops – to buy our plants.

After Target and Lowes moved in - we had to close our farm stand and quit farming. Our gross sales were not enough to cover the cost of the building.

Now, our Road Side Farm stand has little value, since very limited uses are allowed in that building.

Current Road Side Farm stand laws are a trap for small farmers to go broke – as now I have to pay for a building I cannot use.

Please vote YES for HB 4153.

Daniel Kerr, Manager / Member