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Hood River County

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Support for 2026 HB 4153

My family farms in Hood River county, operating a total of 160 acres of EFU-zoned land.

Because farm net revenue has steadily declined over recent decades, the trend in Hood River county is a decrease in farming intensity (fewer orchard acres.) An increasing portion of the remaining farming activity is being subsidized by “transfer income.”

It's difficult to know how long this trend will continue. But by enabling an additional source of on-farm income, this year's House Bill 4153, could help stem this trend in Hood River county. The county's farm productivity might even grow.

For these reasons, I encourage passage of this year's HB 4153.

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