

Submitter: Kristin LaMont

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I have read the proposed language in HB 4153 and fully support it. Small farms in particular need viable, cost effective ways to engage their local communities to visit the farm and support their agricultural products. Labor, supply and seed costs are so high now, it is simply not viable for small producers to maintain a profit in wholesale sales. Farm stores and associated agritourism opportunities are the only way small farmers can survive economically. Most small farms are operating organically with a focus on regenerative, sustainable stewardship. They are building healthy soil, growing nutrient dense food and protecting watershed. This is good for farmers, good for land and especially good for our local communities. I do not believe this bill will diminish the meaning of EFU - but instead, help farmers stay on their land and promote small acreage farm success.

Thank you!