

Submitter: Keri Trulsen

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

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

My Name is Keri Trulsen and I am a member of the community in Redmond, Oregon. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to HB 4153. Farm stands are a vital part of connecting the public with our food system and building an understanding of what it takes to go from field to fork. But HB 4153 would restrict who is allowed to have a farm stand, replace current definitions with Farm Stores, and give large land owners privileges at the expense of small farm stands in Oregon. We need to find a better solution.

I care about this because where I live around NW Redmond has numerous very small farm stands that I pass by frequently. I love being able to stop at a neighbors little stand for eggs or honey or salsa and support their micro farm endeavors. It is so important, especially with how much the cost of food is rising, to keep food as hyper local as possible. Why support a large farm store or a chain grocery store if I have the opportunity to support a neighbor.

Large acreage farms are also very important for food production, but they should not gain extra privileges at the expense of small acre farms - many who are utilizing the land in better ways to make the most of their space.

We are asking you to not have a higher burden on the smallest farms. This bill takes away opportunities from small land holders and farms in order for larger operations to be able to host more events. This is not a good bargain for Oregon and a better deal must be found.

Thank you,
Keri Trulsen
6600 NW 69th Pl
Redmond, OR 97756