

Submitter: Christopher Cody
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB 4153 and its goal of helping family-owned farms become more sustainable and diversify their business models with more agri-tourism options.

My wife and I regularly visit local farms across our community. We pick fruit, attend harvest festivals, and look forward every year to farm-to-table dinners that connect us directly with the people who grow our food. These experiences are not just enjoyable—they are a reminder of how vital family farms are to Oregon's economy, culture, and sense of place.

HB 4153 recognizes the reality that small and family-owned farms must adapt in order to survive. Allowing farms more flexibility to diversify how they operate helps ensure they can remain financially viable while continuing to steward the land responsibly. When farms succeed, communities benefit through local jobs, stronger rural economies, and continued access to fresh, locally grown food.

Most importantly, we want to know that these farms will still be here for our children and our grandchildren. Supporting policies that help farms remain resilient today is an investment in Oregon's future.

I respectfully urge you to support HB 4153 and the family farms that are such an essential part of our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Christopher Cody