

Submitter: Rober Fung
On Behalf Of: All Oregon Farms
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I support this bill because I support family farms, their farm stores and stands, tours, events, and educational experiences related to such farms. All these things are vital to the culture that makes Oregon great! Oregon is one of the nation's leaders in the Farm to Table movement. Oregonians take pride in their connection to the land and its other natural resources that contribute to the subsistence and well-being of our state. This not only benefits the people of Oregon but also the United States and beyond. As someone who was directly involved in the local Portland food scene for over 20 years, I've seen the growth in agritourism, food systems education, and social and cultural interaction that farms and their farm stores create. I've personally experienced buying food stuff and gifts, picking pumpkins and berries, taking hay rides, and finding my way out of corn mazes, at numerous farms and farm stores over the years. We must protect these opportunities and events presented by these farms, or risk losing not just these activities, but the farms as well.