

Submitter: Kaitlynn Fleming

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

My name is Kaitlynn Fleming and I live in Damascus and I'm a parent and customer who enjoys visiting local farms with my family.

As a homeschooling mom I have taken my children to farms all over from the wooden tulip festival, apple picking at multiple hood river orchards, pumpkin patches all over, berry picking, etc. These fun trips to farms have helped us take our learning into real life places where we can see what we've learned about (life cycles of plants, how corn pollinates in corn mazes, how honey is collected, etc). These farms not only allow us to see where our food is grown & how but it lets us become friends with our local farmers. When I buy flowers in the spring they send me messages to remind me to fertilize my plants because we get to know each other and they remember that I don't remember to do that! One farm that my kids have grown up going to also became their first employer! I have younger ones who also can't wait for their day to come to work at the pumpkin patch. These experiences mean a lot to our family and help us support local farms at the same time. Farms need options to diversify their income in order to survive.

I am writing to say that I support HB 4153 and ask that you do the same. This bill helps protect family farms and the agritourism experiences our communities value. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, ?

Kaitlynn Fleming