

Submitter: Cristy Morse

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

03 February 2026

Greetings Oregon House of Representatives,

My name is Cristy Morse. My husband, our sons, and I run a cattle ranch on the outskirts of Coquille, Oregon. I am writing to express my opposition to HB 4153. Farm stands are a vital link between the public and our food system, helping people understand what it truly takes to go from field to fork. HB 4153 would restrict who is allowed to operate a farm stand, replace existing definitions with "Farm Stores," and grant large landowners greater privileges at the expense of small farm stands across Oregon. We need a better solution.

As ranchers, we are continually working to diversify our income in order to remain viable. Using our land to grow crops, raise pastured eggs, or pursue other complementary activities—and selling those products directly to our friends and neighbors—is an essential part of that strategy. Just as importantly, we are customers of nearby small farm stands, which provide the freshest local food grown by members of our own community. These stands are often run by small landholders selling excess garden produce or eggs, with income that helps offset operating costs while offering a valuable service to their neighbors.

We ask that you not place additional burdens on Oregon's smallest farms. This bill removes opportunities from small landholders so that larger operations can host more events. That is not a good bargain for Oregon, and a more equitable solution must be found.

Sincerely,

Cristy Morse
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Coquille, OR 97423