

Submitter: Kathleen Welland

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

The text and intent of HB 4153 is designed to destroy Oregon's longstanding protections for land use, particularly for lands that are currently zoned Exclusive Farm Use. It's another short-sighted attempt gain maximum profit over land protections. Once these protections are removed, farm land that gets paved over or re-zoned will never be able to return as farm land. Locally-owned farm land will be bought out by big business interests who only care about profit, not land stewardship or producing food for our local population. In addition, the liveability of our rural communities will morph into suburbia before our eyes. Natural resources such as land, water, clean air, wildlife and native plants don't stand a chance. I urge you to vote no on this poorly-written bill as well as any future copy cats. Oregon prizes its land use laws. Don't be the ones who started the cascade of erosion.