

Submitter: Judy Rhompson  
On Behalf Of: HB 4153  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or HB4153  
Topic:

Robert & Judy Thompson Family  
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### In Support of HB4153

This bill (HB4153) is literally the first fix to the farm rules since the 70s. It will make it so much easier for farms to be sustainable. The rules make it impossible for the little guy. This is for the small farms, the vegetable and fruit farms, not the grass seed farms, or the farms that have thousands of acres, not the farms that are owned out of state, or the ones owned out of the country. This is about the small farms in our local communities. We are losing them at an alarming rate. The Oregon Farm Bureau says we're losing approximately 1 farm per day in Oregon.

The state said it wanted to support small farms. Instead, so please do support our small real working farms to do what they do best: grow food, build community, and steward the land. We are watching the simple pleasure and needs of us people trickle away in so many ways.

Farms like Topaz and Pumpkin Patch and all the farms on Sauvie Island are an accessible peace of mind and food for our souls. We need Agrotourism, these farms teach us how to be better humans and to respect animals and where our foods come from. The human connection that we experience with family, friends, and the farmers on their farm land, all of us engaging our senses and freedoms in being outdoors with nature is priceless. Please do not take our Agrotourism away from us all.

Sincerely, Robert & Judy Thompson Family, (includes our adults kids, grandkids, and great grandkids).