

To: House Committee on Ag, Land Use, NR, and Water

From: Aileen Kaye

Date: February 4, 2026

Re: “No” on HB 4153

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens,

I **oppose** HB 4135 for all the same reasons as those who have told you “no”. My main points:

*This is too huge of a change to ram through this short session.

*It greatly increases the number of non-farm uses that are sadly already allowed on EFU lands.

*It shows massive disregard for farmers who will be negatively impacted by the addition of the proposed non-farm uses.

I am a horse person and see first-hand the negative impacts non-farm uses have on where we can keep, ride, and find hay for our horses. We need to retain all the farmland in Oregon we have left. During the last three legislative sessions, I have been very disappointed to see disrespect for our land use laws evidenced by bills to allow super-siting, building of data centers, building of vast warehouses, massive solar energy plants on EFU, wholesale expansion of urban growth boundaries without going through the processes allowed already in law.

The number of bills allowed in the short and the long sessions has been exorbitant and has led to legislators listening to lobbyists instead of regular citizens. There is no way for regular citizens to keep up with what bills are being proposed and passed.

This past summer, a very well-heeled private property rights group which has a history of disdain for Oregon’s land use laws, spearheaded a vicious and what I feel was a dishonest campaign swiftboating those of us who

want to maintain our land use laws that keep Oregon "Oregon". I have a feeling that is who is behind this dangerous bill.

Please do not pass HB 4153 out of committee.

Thank you for your consideration.