

Submitter: Tom Reif  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

?To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

From: Tom Reif, Bandon, OR

Date: February 3, 2026

Subject: OPPOSITION to HB 4153 – Stop the Over-Regulation of Bandon's Small Businesses

?Chair and Committee Members,

?My name is Tom Reif. I live in Bandon and I'm a full-time welding student at SWOCC. I am writing to urge you to vote NO on HB 4153.

?I chose a trade because I value hard work and the ability to build something for yourself. In Bandon, we take pride in our independence. But HB 4153 feels like a "big government" attempt to pick winners and losers in our local economy. By creating high-entry barriers, this bill tells small family farmers that if they aren't big enough or rich enough, they don't have a right to sell what they grow on their own land.

?As a resident who relies on small stands like Valley Flora, Hartnell Haven, and Wildwood Gypsy, I see several major problems with this bill:

?Property Rights & Small Business Hurdles: Requiring 40 to 80 acres just to operate a "Farm Store" is a massive overreach. It punishes small-scale landowners and entrepreneurs who are trying to make a living without government handouts.

?The "Pay-to-Play" Mandate: Forcing a \$40,000 revenue requirement on small farms is an attack on start-ups. It essentially says that if you aren't already a large commercial operation, the state doesn't want you competing in the market.

?Backdoor Local Control: The "traffic and noise" provisions are loopholes that allow bureaucratic "not-in-my-backyard" types to shut down hard-working neighbors through selective enforcement.

?Destroying the "Farm Stand" Tradition: Removing the current "Farm Stand" statutes in favor of a complex "Store" model creates more red tape, not less. We should be making it easier for farmers to sell to their neighbors, not harder.

?Please stand up for rural Oregon and the small-scale producers who keep our coastal communities fed. Don't let HB 4153 "elbow out" the small business owners of Bandon.

?Respectfully,

?Tom Reif

Bandon, Oregon