

Submitter: Alan Van Zuuk

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

These requirements are bad for small farms because:

Small farms have the highest burden of eligibility by acreage in production

Small farms are the only ones who have to prove farm income in order to qualify and small farms are going broke in general.

Larger land owners (who are not subject to an income requirement) are also allowed to apply right away, whereas a smaller land owner would need to wait until their 3rd year of production to even attempt to get a permit.

The farm stand is the simplest form of farm commerce. Farmers should always have the right to sell their own product from their farm property as an outright allowed use. The way this bill is written replaces farm stands in the law with these new laws about farm stores. We want to ensure that we are not outlawing the most simple form of farm commerce available. Someone with an honor system stand where they sell extra produce from their garden at the end of their driveway should not be subject to a permit and should not be prohibited.

When a farm only sells their own product, or has a u-pick, and operates their stand seasonally no permit should be necessary. T

How many Oregonians do you plan to starve to death by making it illegal to grow food and share it?

Bottom line – we need to make community food systems possible by supporting even the smallest endeavors to feed our neighbors.