

Submitter: Annie Muske-Dukes

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Dear Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair McDonald, and members of the committee,

I urge you to oppose HB 4153, which would require counties to allow large commercial stores on farmland. The bill does not seem to support farmers and seems more likely to disrupt working farms and food production. I don't want confusion about what farmers can sell, or the much worse case of having corporations come in to use 95% of the land.

Existing law already allows farmers to sell their farm products to the public, host educational events and activities like u-picks, and sell nonfarm retail items up to 25% of the farm stand's total annual sales.

By removing "farm stands" as an allowable use in Exclusive Farm Use zones, the bill creates unnecessary new regulations for farmers who simply want to sell their farm products to the public.

Sincerely,

Annie, Bend 97701