

Submitter: Debra Slattery

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

My Name is Debra Slattery and I am a community member in Coos Bay. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to HB 4153. Farm stands are a vital part of connecting the public with our food system and building an understanding of what it takes to go from field to fork. But HB 4153 would restrict who is allowed to have a farm stand, replace current definitions with Farm Stores, and give large land owners privileges at the expense of small farm stands in Oregon. We need to find a better solution.

I care about this because I live in a small town and know how difficult it is to make a living as a small farmer. Small farms need to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms. I don't understand why a small farm should be any less legitimate when it comes to defining farm use...in this day and age, community is more and more important and small farm (and stands) provide that.

Please don't place a higher burden on the smallest farms. They have a hard enough time as it is. This bill takes away opportunities from small land holders and farms in order for larger operations to be able to host more events. This is not a good bargain for Oregon and a better deal must be found.

Thank you,

Debra Slattery
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