

Submitter: Mike Dobney
On Behalf Of: Individuals marketing with small farm stands
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

To: Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

My name is Mike Dobney and I am a COMMUNITY MEMBER in Bandon. 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 we shop regularly at small farm stands to get the best and freshest produce we can. We try to maintain our health and the way to do that is start with organic products if at all possible. Small farm stands provide an alternative to major super markets that are handling produce from factory farms that is dangerously laden with products proven to be detrimental to humans and is absolutely proven to be carcinogenic. This bill does not support small farm operations and is just plain wrong.

We are asking you to not place a higher burden on the smallest farms. 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,
Mike Dobney
780 Jackson Ave SW
Bandon, Oregon