

Submitter: Chaney Delaire

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

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 Chaney Delaire and I am a community member in Brookings. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to HB 4153. Farm stands are a vital and historical part of building a direct connection between the public and small famers. Who doesn't like stopping at a farm stand to choose your own delicious blueberries, lettuce, carrot, beets?. 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

As I travel north on 101, I often stop at a farm stand that would not meet the acreage requirements in section 2.2 of the bill.

Small farms deserve to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms.

Small farms are an integral and vital rural community resource. Smal farmers work hard to supply quality produce to us.

I shop regularly for produce through our local Brookings Otterbees, a small business that purchases goods from small farms and delivers them locally. Some of these farms also rely on sales from their farm stands to make ends meet. This bill could force small farms out of business causing a ripple effect throughout our area.

Why should large acreage farmers gain privileges at the expense of smaller acre farmers?

Why should a small farm be any less legitimate than a large farm when it comes to defining farm use?

Farm stands offer us a chance to choose delicious fresh foods, our children and grandchildren learn where food comes from, and our local economy benefits.

Please do 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,

NAME Chaney Delaire

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