

Submitter: Sondra Aguirre

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 Sondra Aguirre and I am a rancher 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. 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 frequently shop at Valley Flora in Langlois, Oregon. I have been a member of their summer and winter CSA for over ten years now and I love their farm fresh veggies and fruit. Small farms need to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms. I also purchase from several small farms stands in Bandon that operate seasonally and love all of their products they offer.

I am 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,

Sondra Aguirre
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