

Submitter: Susan Russell
On Behalf Of: Valley Flora
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 Susan Russell and I am a resident of Port Orford.. 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.

We support small organic farms that reflect what our community values - conservative, traditional organic methods of gardening that produce nutrient-rich and healthy crops, not the chemically-laden, mass-produced crops which no human hand ever touches.

We love the hands-on, personal touch of small farm stands, where our neighbors make a living and we have a better quality of life.

Please help us keep these rare and valuable family businesses alive.

Thank you,

Susan Russell

Port Orford, OR