

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 4153.

I have spent much of my 20s and 30s living and exploring different parts of the country. Each place I called home left a mark on me—whether it was the rugged mountains and outdoors of Colorado, the small-town charm and vibrant fall foliage of Vermont, or the beautiful summers and rocky coastline of Maine. It wasn't until 2021 that I discovered Oregon, which I now proudly call home.

Oregon's family-owned farms and agricultural foundation are truly unique. They are not only central to our economy, but they also foster community, preserve local culture, and strengthen family values. I currently work on a farm in NW Portland, **Plumper Farms**, and I also visit and support family-owned farms across the state throughout the year. Through these experiences, I have built relationships with farmers and farm employees and have seen firsthand the challenges they face—navigating complex regulations, licensing, attorney fees, and other barriers that can threaten the sustainability of their operations.

House Bill 4153 offers a thoughtful and realistic path forward. It empowers farmers to generate revenue and keep their farms operational without the heavy burden of expensive litigation or prohibitive administrative costs. This is not deregulation; it is a practical and necessary measure to ensure the future of Oregon's farms and the communities that depend on them.

I respectfully urge you to support HB 4153 and do everything in your power to champion this bill. Our farmers are the backbone of our local economy and our community, and they deserve the protections and opportunities this legislation provides.

Thank you for your time and attention.