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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 Carrie Juchau and I am a small organic strawberry and poultry farmer in Grants Pass, Oregon. 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 restricts who is allowed to have a farm stand, replaces current definitions with Farm Stores, and gives 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 operate a farm stand that would not meet the acreage requirements in section 2.2 of the bill. Passage of this bill would result in closure of the only sales outlet available to me during winter since our farmers markets close during winter. This is my only income for six months of the year. Small farms need to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms. It is unfair for large acreage farmers to gain privileges at the expense of smaller acre farmers. The [2025 Community Food Assessment](#) completed by Rogue Valley Food System Network reported a 50% increase in small farms in Josephine County, compared to a decrease of small farm development across the state of Oregon. 40% of these small farms are utilizing less than 14 acres for food production. Why should a small farm be any less legitimate than a large farm when it comes to defining farm use?

We are asking you to prevent a higher burden on the smallest farms who are feeding communities at our greatest hour of need. This bill takes away opportunities from small farm land holders in order for larger operations to be able to host more events. This is not a good arrangement for Oregon and a better one must be found.

In Community,

Carrie Juchau

Carrie Juchau
Daily Blessings Farm