

Submitter: Yianni Doulis

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Hello, I am a large scale gardener/small scale farmer who lives on 5 acres of EFU land on Sauvie Island. I've followed the back and forth on HB 4153 with interest, and find that the bill as it stands is deeply flawed. The bill does not protect the smallest scale of farm stand at all, while privileging larger operations and those with farm store permits already. 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.

It seems that the consequences of this bill would allow for both more music events and off-farm product sales (by store area rather than revenue). This is not in the spirit of the farm stand as it's commonly understood: it doesn't support agricultural, it changes the character of a farm store to more closely resemble an entertainment venue.

We are asking you to not have 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. Please revise this bill and protect the smallest scale of farms ability to market and distribute their produce. This is where innovation is happening in agriculture.