

Submitter: Emily Reinig

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

My Name is Emily Reinig and I am a community member that benefits from small farm agriculture in Coos Bay. 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.

I care about this because

I frequently go to a farm stand that would not meet the acreage requirements in section 2.2 of the bill. This is a vital resource in a small, rural community, and one that not only makes environmental and economic sense, but that creates resiliency in our area.

Our local small farms and far stands add vitality to small communities and create a gathering space for good food and community.

We are 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,
Dr. Emily Reinig
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