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February 4, 2026

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water Oregon State
Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL 4153 (Relating to Farm Stores)

Dear Chair Helm, Vice-Chairs Owens and McDonald, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Scott Stokley. I am a local business owner and community advocate in Mt. Angel, Oregon. I am writing today to express my strong support for **House Bill 4153**.

HB 4153 represents a thoughtful and practical step toward strengthening Oregon's economic vitality while recognizing the real-world challenges faced by local businesses, workers, and communities across our state. Policies like this help create stability, encourage responsible growth, and support the people who are investing their time, energy, and resources into Oregon's future.

As someone directly involved in small business operations and community development, I see firsthand how well-crafted legislation can positively impact local economies and long-term sustainability. In communities like Mt. Angel, our agricultural roots are our economic engine. By allowing "farm stands" to modernize into "farm stores," this bill provides the necessary flexibility for our local producers to diversify their income through value-added products and agri-tourism. This ensures that Oregon's family farms remain viable in a modern market while continuing to serve as a cornerstone of our local identity.

HB 4153 moves us in the right direction by balancing accountability with opportunity and ensuring Oregon remains a place where businesses and communities can thrive together.

I respectfully urge you to support HB 4153 and advance it through the legislative process. Thank you for your time, consideration, and your dedicated service to the people of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Scott Stokley

Business Owner & Community Member Mt. Angel, Oregon