



February 4, 2026

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
HB 4153: Relating to Farmstands**

Clackamas County supports legislation to clarify permitting pathways for farmstand operators.

HB 4153 is a critical first step in modernizing state land use regulations for modern farming practices, while maintaining the functionality of exclusive farm use (EFU) zones. In 2022, Oregon had 35,547 farms spread across 15.3 million acres. Nearly 12% of these farms were in Clackamas County. As costs continue to increase, local farms are reinventing themselves to stay afloat, offering school tours, farm-to-table events, and other commercial opportunities. Likewise, farm ownership is increasingly prohibitive, risking historically family-based farms to become fallow, be sold for commercial farming, or be sold to owners with no intent to farm.

This bill is a compromise on legislation and a rules-making process that struggled in 2025. We believe this language is essential now, and that future legislation may be helpful to address implementation nuances, such as permitting reviews, good neighbor agreements – especially regarding rural livability – and potential uses that exceed farm stand goals.

Clackamas County welcomes legislation paving the way for business innovation in the agricultural sector. We stand ready to partner in support of HB 4153 and proposed amendments to improve implementation.

Please contact Trent Wilson (twilson2@clackamas.us) for more information.