

Submitter: Rebecca Anthony

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

My name is Randall & Rebecca Anthony and we are a FARMER/RANCHER/COMMUNITY MEMBER/FARM STAND OPERATOR in TOWN. 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

Consider answering some of these questions or using these statements as a jumping off point in your testimony:

I operate or frequently go to a farm stand that would not meet the acreage requirements in section 2.2 of the bill.

Small farms need to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms.

Why is small farming important to you? The quality of produce and meat What is the value of small operations in your community? Brings farmers families income

Why should large acreage farmers gain privileges at the expense of smaller acre farmers? They shouldn't, bigger production is not as good as the smaller farmers.

Why should a small farm be any less legitimate than a large farm when it comes to defining farm use? They shouldn't, all farms should have the same opportunity.

What do farm stands do for your farm business or community? Fresh and organic pure food provided.

What does it mean for you, your farm and your community if the primary purpose of a farm stand becomes agritourism events, not the sale of farm products? Both are welcomed.

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,

Randall and Rebecca Anthony

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