

Submitter:

Jon Wright

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I am a small acreage farmer operating on 10 acres in Linn County, and I strongly support HB 4153. For farms like mine, the ability to operate a farm store is essential to stay economically viable while keeping our land in productive agriculture through direct sales of what we grow and raise.

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HB 4153 is a meaningful step toward giving working farmers more practical freedom to market our products directly to the public on our own land. By recognizing farm stores and value-added sales from the local agricultural area, and by including smaller farms under 20 acres, the bill acknowledges the realities faced by small operations like mine.

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Although I believe Oregon's land use laws remain overly restrictive of individual property rights, HB 4153 moves policy in the right direction by expanding what farmers are allowed to do without undermining the primary use of the land for agriculture. I respectfully urge your support so that small acreage farmers can have more tools to sustain our operations, serve our communities, and continue to keep our land in productive farm use.