

Submitter: Jeff Whitey

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

My Name is Jeff Whitey and I am a COMMUNITY MEMBER 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 we need to focus on local food source and support local farmers. We do not need government to interfere with this basic land owner and operated local business and community engagement.

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

Large acreage farmers should not have privileges at the expense of smaller acre farmers? Stop this intrusion and imbalance. Stay out of it!!!

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,

Jeff Whitey

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