

Submitter: Jennifer Gulizia

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I am writing as a small farm owner in Hood River County to express my support for HB 4153.

We purchased our just-over-20-acre farm last year and are in the early stages of restoring the land through cover cropping and long-term farm planning. Our goal is to build a working, community-centered flower farm with a future farm store where we can sell plants and flowers grown on-site, host educational workshops, and offer farm-to-table dinners.

I see HB 4153 as an important step toward keeping farms economically viable in Oregon. Farmers need to be incentivized, not penalized, for opening their gates to the public, educating their communities, and creating meaningful connections to agriculture. Far too many people have never set foot on a working farm, and thoughtful agritourism can help change that while strengthening rural economies.

Clear statewide rules give farmers the confidence to invest in their land, rebuild soil, and create experiences that reconnect people with where their food and flowers come from. I hope this bill is just the beginning of a broader effort to support working farms, regenerative practices, and small agricultural businesses that are trying to grow responsibly.

Thank you for your time and for considering the perspective of farmers who are committed to keeping Oregon's agricultural lands productive and accessible for future generations.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Gulizia
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