

Submitter: Guinnevere Edwards  
On Behalf Of: Topaz Farm  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural  
Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I went to a farm to plate last summer at Topaz Farm and sat among strangers from Portland, I was awestruck at how quickly it felt as if we were all neighbors. Upon leaving I wanted to hug them all!

What I am saying is that Topaz farm brings community together through its events wether it's a dinner, a wreath making ar pickling class, a concert or just an afternoon on the lawn with the kids playing with other kids.

Topaz Farm is also an asset to this community in that it offers a diverse group of jobs to young people starting out in the workforce. Jobs in agriculture, animal welfare, produce, retail, food and hospitality, teaching workshops, working with children and so much more. Never in my youth did I work in a place with so much available in one place!

It's a beautiful thing when you see a high school student leave to pursue studies in veterinary or agriculture sciences because they were inspired by their work at the farm.

Please say yes to HB4153, our communities need farms such as Topaz. The work they do is hard don't make it harder.