

Submitter: Rick Glover
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 Rick Glover and I am a community member from Pleasant Hill. I am writing to you to express my opposition to HB 4153. While more leeway is needed to have commercial freedom on their land, this bill stands in contrast to that aim by heavily restricting who is allowed to participate. The restriction of farm stands would remove a vital piece of our community. This would disconnect the public more with our food system and force even more reliance on a grocery/food system that does not have their health and well being at the bottom line. Additionally, you would be removing a critical piece of our small town rural culture and entrepreneurship. The restrictions that HB 4153 places on farm stands, in essence replacing them with Farm Stores, will punish small land owners and reward larger land owners. In Lane county we have a significant portion of our population classified as food insecure and many of these individuals live in the rural part of the county. This bill would negatively impact food security of these individuals. I care about this because small farms and community entrepreneurship are both valuable parts of my community and this bill clearly rewards larger land interests at the cost of literally...the little guy. This bill does not make any sense to help address food costs, food security, or community culture.

We are asking you to not have 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,
Rick Glover