

Submitter: Laura Mason

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

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

My name is Laura Mason and my family has owned property in Port Orford for more than a half century. (We have lived on our property for more than 35 years.) One of the wonderful aspects of life on the southern Oregon coast is the rural lifestyle and the lack of big city businesses. Farm stands are an intrinsic part of the fabric of small town living and they provide an economic opportunity for many residents who might otherwise not have income streams. Therefore, I am writing to you today to express my opposition to HB 4153.

Farm stands are also 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. 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. Surely there is a better solution than these outcomes.

Sincerely,  
Laura Mason  
1220 Lakeshore Drive  
Port Orford, OR 97465