

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 Ledeen Rickey and I am a community member and Rotarian in Port Orford, OR. 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 currently support many small farmstands in the Port Orford area by purchasing from them and almost daily see the vitality that they add to our community.

Small farmers need to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms. I do not feel that a small farm should be considered any less legitimate than a large farm. Not only do I support the small farmstands in my community, but I witness how philanthropic our small farms are to neighbors that suffer from fresh food scarcity.

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,

Ledeen Rickey

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