

Submitter: Darrel Mally

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 Darrel Mally, and I am a community member in Portland, OR. I am writing in opposition to HB 4153.

Because farmers are the foundation of a functional society, and small farms in particular play a critical role in feeding communities, stewarding land, and sustaining local economies, Oregon's land use policies must not create barriers for the smallest farms. As a consumer, I value choice, and I intentionally spend my disposable income at farm stands because it allows me to directly support the people doing this essential work.

HB 4153 concerns me because it introduces acreage and income thresholds that could prevent small or beginning farms from operating simple farm stands. While larger, well-established operations may benefit, this bill risks limiting access for smaller farms that rely on direct sales to survive.

I value visiting both large farms and small, low-key farm stands, and Oregon's land use laws ought to protect that diversity. Small farms should not face higher barriers simply because they operate on fewer acres.

I urge you to oppose HB 4153 as written and seek an approach that modernizes regulations without excluding the smallest farms.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Darrel P. Mally
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