

Submitter: Kristy Grieve

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 4153. There are many farm stands in Jackson County that would be affected adversely by this bill. The limit on acreage is creating barriers to small farmers. With the ever increasing cost of food, it's important that small farm stands be a solution. Farms stands give beginning and small farmers a way to create income, especially if they only can farm on the side. This bill would take away that opportunity. 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.

Some things to note: one acre can produce 2500 to 3000 pounds of tomatoes or 24,000 pounds of cucumbers, or 75,000 onions. So if someone is only farming 3 acres of their 7 acre property, they can still contribute a lot to the local economy, and create income for themselves.

Thank you,
Kristy Grieve
White City, Oregon