

Date: February 6, 2026

To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Re: HB 4153 Written Testimony

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 Skaidra Scholey Tilley and I am a community member in Port Orford. I am writing to you today to express my strong 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 care about this because small farms need to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms. Small farming is important to me because eating locally sourced food is the healthiest option. I appreciate supporting small farm stands near my home and value knowing the fields and families who I buy my eggs and produce from.

I disagree that large acreage farmers should gain privileges at the expense of smaller acre farmers. Further, I disagree that small farms should be seen as less legitimate than a large farm when it comes to defining farm use.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Skaidra Scholey'.

Skaidra Scholey Tilley

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