

Submitter: Joseph Snyder

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Dear Friends,

This is a complicated and controversial subject. While I am deeply sympathetic with the needs of small farmers to find a way to survive economically in these increasingly monopolistic times, I find that this bill opens the doors too widely and would severely degrade our excellent and widely admired land use and preservation policies. Please go back and do your homework and come up with a bill that better serves the needs of struggling farmers without opening the doors to commercialization of precious farmland. I am always pleased when coming home from road trips to recognize the work that has been done in Oregon to preserve farmland. Let's keep it that way. By the way, I grew up on a big farm in Clackamas County and spent my professional life as a farm and ranch veterinarian in Coos County, in addition to having served as board chair of Oregon Tilth for several years, so have some personal connections and expertise with this issue.

Yours respectfully,
Joe Snyder