

Submitter: Brian McFadden
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or HB4153
Topic:

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 Brian McFadden and I am a community member in Dallas, Oregon. I support some of the general principles of HB 4153, but **STRONGLY OPPOSE** the elements which make it nearly impossible for small family farms to operate farm stands, due to the acreage requirements in section 2.2. Farm stands are a critically important way for communities to access fresh, local produce, and for family-scale farms to provide that produce and support their families. Large farms — especially large properties that are only nominally "farms" —may need additional support, but it must not come at the expense of the small family farms who are unduly penalized by this portion of the bill.

In its current state, the bill takes away meaningful and necessary opportunities for small farms and their communities, and in exchange allows large property owners greater freedom in hosting events — which may have nothing to do with food production. The vast majority of Oregonians are going to be hurt by this bill more than they are helped, and we deserve better.

Thank you,
Brian McFadden
Dallas, OR