

February 10, 2026

Representative John Lively, Chair  
House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Oregon State Legislature

**RE: Support for HB 4030**

Dear Honorable Chair Lively and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and comment in support of HB 4030.

The PET clamshell is currently the most sustainable packaging option available, as it has an established circular economy. It is the only berry packaging to date that is 100% recyclable, meets U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) food safety standards, complies with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) berry grade standards, and is the most cost-effective option. These factors contribute to high consumer confidence, food security, and low costs for consumers.

Consumers are aware of the recyclability of the berry PET clamshell; however, what is less understood is the circular economy associated with it. For the past two decades, berry farmers have committed to using recycled PET content in their clamshells as part of their environmental sustainability initiatives. When growers send specifications to packaging manufacturers, they include the required post-consumer, recycled PET (rPET) content. The costs associated with purchasing rPET from Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) to incorporate into new packaging are fully borne by the growers. The EPR fees in Oregon duplicate the costs that growers are already paying, unfairly requiring them to pay twice for the same berry packaging. Initial cost estimates indicate that EPR fees could be comparable to what a farm earns in a year; thus, additional fees cannot be absorbed by growers and would lead to increased food prices. HB 4030 aims to eliminate these duplicative fees, helping to keep food prices affordable and stable.

Berry farmers are committed to environmental sustainability while meeting the diverse needs of consumers for nutritious, affordable, and safe fruit. We express our support for HB 4030 and appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and comments.

Sincerely,



Rick Tomlinson, President  
California Strawberry Com



Greg Addington  
Executive Director  
Oregon Farm Bureau Fed



Kasey Cronquist, President  
NABC



Michelle Palacios,  
Administrator, OBC