From the Desk of Representative Andy Olson



## **Oregon Farm Bureau Requests Your SUPPORT of HB 3367**

Oregon Farm Bureau urges your support for HB 3367. This bill would require recreational trails to go through the conditional land use permitting process, ensuring that local farmers have a forum to address any impacts to their operations from the construction of a recreational trail through farmland.

HB 3367 closes a significant loophole in existing land use law. Under current Oregon land use laws, certain uses are allowed outright in farm zones while others require approval from the local governing body before they may be constructed. Current law is not clear regarding whether recreational trails are permitted outright in farm use zones or whether they must have a permit from the local governing body before they are constructed. As a result, some projects have been constructed without any forum for neighboring owners to present concerns about the project or

request alterations to avoid conflicts with their operations.

HB 3367 clarifies that recreational trails require a land use permit. The permit process gives neighboring landowners a forum to present their concerns about potential impacts to their farming operations. It also requires the local governing body to make a finding that the project will not significantly increase the cost of farming or force a significant change in farming practices.

In areas devoted to agricultural use, construction of a recreation trail through farming operations creates a host of concerns that are not present with other types of use. These can significantly impact farming operations. Oregon Farm Bureau urges you to ensure that farmers have a forum to weigh in regarding the construction of trails through prime farmland and minimize the risk of conflict.

## SUPPORT the Oregon Family Farmers by VOTING "YES" HB 3367

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