

My name is Rosie Sweetman and I am a co-owner of Little Wings Farm located just outside Eugene. I had 10 years of farming experience before starting my own farm. This means that I should be at lower risk of making mistakes and failures but there is one really big factor I have no control over. The climate. Despite the vast diversity of crops: vegetables, fruits, berries and cut flowers that I grow in order to buffer from one crop failure, I am not immune to the variable risks associated with extreme heat in the summer and extreme cold in the winter. As a farmer whose livelihood relies on the outdoor conditions to be favorable I strongly encourage you to support the HB 2020 (aka Carbon Reduction Act).

As a small farm, we rarely see governmental incentives to grow food sustainably. We don't get any rewards for growing cover crops, creating habitat for pollinators, using organic amendments or protecting our water from fertilizer residues. We do it anyway because we know it is the only way to truly grow food with an interest and care of our environment and future generations. We grow food for our community, but we do this at a greater cost than the chemical intensive agriculture operations. It is overtime for our government places incentives on a more sustainable form of agriculture by charging those who are polluting the most and using the money to invest in sustainable agriculture practices.

The time to act is now. You are the one elected to protect the people. Show your support for HB 2020. I am just one of hundreds of farmers across this state that feel the same way. All farmers will benefit from a more stable climate and from incentives to farm for future generations in mind!

Thank you! Rosie Sweetman Little Wings Farm Eugene