

Submitter: Anne Krahmer-Steinkamp
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB4141

Dear Chair and other Representative,

I am a 6th generation farmer here in Oregon. I farm with my father, my brother and my husband. We farm blueberries in Marion, Linn and Columbia Counties. Together, we farm about 500 acres of Blueberries. I want to share with you my concerns about the real impacts of HB 4141 on our farm.

Diesel engines are the main part of our operation. We only have 1 gas tractor on our farm, but it doesn't have the power that our diesel tractors have. We also use mechanical berry harvesters to pick the fruit and tractors to off load the fruit from the harvesters. We load our fruit directly into semitrailers in the fields, so that it will maintain optimum temperature and freshness. Those semitrailers keep our fruit cool and then transport the fruit to the processor. From the processor, the fruit is shipped to various markets throughout the country.

I am very much in favor of working for a better environment, as a custodian of the land, we strive for this daily. But at the present time, there are very few alternatives for gas or electric tractors, and NO gas or electric berry harvesters.

This bill will have disastrous results on farmers in Oregon. There is little to no choices to replace the diesel engines in machines we use.

Please oppose this bill!

Thanks,
Anne Krahmer-Steinkamp