



House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

February 17, 2025

Chair Lively and Members of the Committee:

Please accept this testimony, on behalf of Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network, regarding HB 3018, which would require certain entities to recover food waste.

We are supportive of the intent of the bill, *but are concerned about the bill language.*

We're concerned about food waste and its climate impacts, specifically methane emissions. And we love compost and the benefits that applying compost has on soil health for farms!

We want to see food waste composted, but we are concerned that if this bill becomes law that farms that are composting their food waste onsite will instead be required to send it off site. The best place for food waste on a farm is in a compost pile to make compost to improve soil health!

In our opinion, the current definition of "covered entities" in HB3018 can be interpreted to include farms and producers, particularly the phrase "sell[s] food". We suggest adding a clause such as: "Covered entity" does not include farms or businesses whose primary purpose/business is growing food.

We don't want farms who are composting to have to send their food waste/compost off site. Clause 2(b) excluding food collected to feed animals will exclude some farms, but only those who are feeding food waste to animals--many are composting food waste. A similar clause excluding food waste collected for composting on-site could address this issue.

We would appreciate consideration of these concerns as you draft amendments.

Thank you,

Megan Kemple, Executive Director  
Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network