

Hello,

My name is Vicki Simpson.

Like many people today I am aware of the need to encourage and support the production of nutritious food being grown by local organic farmers and also by local citizens growing produce on 1/2 acre or less, food that can help fill in the gap for good food availability in our city and county.

I cannot understand why there has been a move at the state level to make it more difficult for local people who are raising produce on 1/2 acre or less to sell what they harvest. It is not the use of water in my estimation, because most of the water in the state used for food production, be it for people or animals, is used by large commercial interests who sell their product out of the state or out of the country.

It seems to me that we must carefully use our water for the people of Oregon first and foremost. Local 1/2 acre or less concerns can provide good nutrition and save energy at the same time by allowing people in their locale to buy from them and not travel miles to get to a city or town for provisions.

Facts of water use in the state do not support the idea that the small 1/2 acre local producers use too much of our water. I believe that the old part of the state water statutes is being misapplied. Let's not forget the over all aims of feeding people good food, supporting small entrepreneurs and their families and saving energy and fuel by the local nature of these food sources.

My request: support Oregonians who do the hard work of 1/2 acre food production for their neighbors while increasing their own incomes and stability for their families at the same time. I value what they provide to me and I like paying them for their work.

Please Support the relevant additions to HB3372 to accomplish this goal!

Thank you for your attention,

Vicki Simpson
Ashland, Oregon