

Pam Brown
78237 Snauer Lane
Cottage Grove, OR 97424

To:

Co-chairs Ken Helm and Mark Owens, Vice-Chair Sarah Finger McDonald and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water:

Dear Legislators Ken Helm and Mark Owens

My name is Pam Brown. I am living on and buying a small acreage property close to Cottage Grove in Lane County. I am writing today to support HB 3372. Currently in Oregon it is legal to water a ½ acre personal garden or use 5,000 gal/day for raising livestock and unrestricted other commercial purpose, but not to grow food and produce for sale. Why is it legal to use the water for personal use, but selling a single zucchini from my garden would mean I was breaking the law?

This personally impacts me because: I am not allowed to benefit my community by selling excess produce, offset increasing taxes, nor can I help lessen the impact of expenses directly related to living in a flood zone. I further state that the domestic wells I know of, through my neighbors, are ½ horsepower and are capable of pumping three gallons a minute which is 189 gallons an hour. At this rate 4536 gallons is the maximum that could be pumped if I worked all day and night. However, this would be within the allowed limit and there would be no need for a monitor to track, or policing water usage required.

Please see the logic of allowing this archaic error to be removed from the existing law. I appreciate that you are working for the good of your constituents and understand the need to correct this oversight.

Sincerely,

Pam Brown
SoulShine Family Farm
78237 Snauer Lane
Cottage Grove, OR 97424