

HB 3372: Written Testimony 4.1.2025

Co-chairs Helm and Owen's, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water:

My name is Morgan Krepky and I am a community member and small business owner in Jacksonville. I am writing today to support HB 3372. Currently in Oregon it is legal to water a one half acre garden or use 5,000 gallons per day for a commercial purpose, but neither of those apply to growing food and farm products for sale. Why is it legal to use the water for personal use, but selling a single tomato from my garden would mean I was breaking the law?

This personally impacts me because I live in a small community with a large population of seniors and low income. I run a small shop in town and have customers who come in asking how and where they can spend their WIX checks. A part of a state program to encourage seniors and low income households to eat more greens. Well... when I have customers come in asking where they can spend these WIX checks I can only name a couple farms. There are folks in my neighborhood who would like to sell their greens that they grow, but they are backyard gardeners. What a great way to encourage both small time producers and a state program than by passing HB 3372. It will have an immediate positive effect on my town. And boost our food security.

We need to be realistic about what we prioritize for water use in our state. Allowing people to grow food or farm products for sale with a gallon restriction on one half acre will not bankrupt the system, and farming is too much work for people to rush into production on such a small scale. Give communities back the ability to feed and provide for themselves, pass HB 3372.

Thank you,  
Morgan Krepky  
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