

Submitter: Glenna Hayes
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3372

We have the opportunity to pass a law to allow people to sell food and farm products grown within the exemptions of domestic wells and we need your support more than ever!

I have been told that a forthcoming amendment to HB 3372 would allow commercial gardens to be watered from domestic wells as long as the garden is ½ acre or less and with a daily gallon limit. I am supportive of this solution as discussed.

This is our chance to increase agricultural and rural economic opportunity without increasing water use.

Why do I support such a small scale solution? (½ acre, gallon limit, etc)

* There are many other water bills in the legislature seeking to address systemic problems in the prior appropriation system and the way Oregon governs water. None of them included this specific problem (commercial gardens and domestic wells) and because it is the main concern of small family farms I support a targeted solution to this specific problem.

* Please fix a hypocrisy in current law that would allow folks to sell farm products from their legal water use of their domestic exempt wells, not open up a whole other class of use. This is why the solution I am supporting is within current exemptions.

* This amendment will keep this solution as feasible for the department to regulate as possible to keep the bill from having a fiscal component, making it easier to pass.