

Submitter: Charles Tilt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3372

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

As a consumer of locally produced food products in Lane County, I am a frequent purchaser of product at the Eugene Farmers Market.

Some of the farms that I purchase from have been impacted by the active regulation of their production due to concerns that their water for agriculture is coming from a domestic well and thus restricted by law.

I appreciate your support in changing the current restriction to allow for up to 1/2 acre of commercial production from a domestic well. The small holder farmer is unlikely over consumer of our precious water resources, due to limitations of scale and the economic challenges of operating a succesful business at this size. Nonetheless, the folks who choose to do it should not be restricted by the current restrictions on water use, and have the opportunity to have a supplemental living on their small holding that also benefits me and consumers like me who believe that a robust local food system has a significant social and cultural benefit to citizens of Oregon.

Best,
Charlie