

8 April 2025

Dear Chairperson Helm and members of the committee:

I am the co-owner of a small farm (just under three acres) and strongly support HB 3372. This is a much needed change to Oregon's somewhat antiquated water rights and allocation methodology.

Our farm produces and sells tree fruit, which is mostly dry farmed – occasionally supplemented by modest amounts of captured rain water, but without the benefit of a water right. Our land is designated EFU, and we purchased it in 2004 in part to protect that designation by returning the land to agricultural productivity.

HB 3372 would allow us to make better and more efficient use of our EFU land, by expanding what we can grow and sell through the use of modest amounts of water from our domestic well. We know the land is productive, based on the vegetables and berries that we grow for ourselves using water from our well.

There are likely hundreds of small farms in a similar situation as ours, particularly in the Willamette Valley. We will see the need for Oregon to provide a greater share of the state's and nation's food supply, given the likelihood of disruptions to our food supply and security due to changes in climatic conditions and the threat of tariffs. HB 3372 would give those farms an incentive and opportunity to increase food production and marketing by providing them with access to a necessary resource – water.

Most growers that would use this opportunity would likely use much less than the proposed gallons per day limitation.

Thank you for your work on this bill!

Larry Landis  
Territorial Road Orchard  
Corvallis, Oregon