

Submitter: Sarah Alibabaie

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3372

My name is Sarah. I am writing today to support HB 3372-5. Currently in Oregon it is legal to water a ½ acre garden or use 5,000 gal/day for a commercial purpose, but neither of those apply to growing food and farm products for sale. Stewarding the land and sharing with neighbors on a small commercial level should not be illegal. Give communities back the ability to feed and provide for themselves, pass HB 3372-5.

I grew up in Troutdale, and as an adult I lived for a time on a third of an acre property with a well in Troutdale. I only grew a few things for personal use, because growing and farming things is a lot of work! However if needed, the usage of water on that property, within a gallon limit, has a lot of potential. This potential should be respected and not policed away. We are already losing so many small farms and farmer livelihoods. It is not an easy thing livelihood.

Even though I do not grow food as a farmer, I like to know that farmers in my community do not face barriers to getting their products to me, whether at farmers markets or in other commercial avenues.

Please pass HB 3372-5.

Sincerely,
Sarah Alibabaie