

Pacific NW CSA Coalition PO Box 83534 Portland, OR 97283

Apr 29, 2025

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire:

My name is Holly Hutchason and I am the Executive Director of the Pacific NW CSA Coalition. I am writing today to support HB 3372 A.

There are over 100 farms throughout the state in our coalition. All of them are small-scale, diversified vegetable producers: they are the farmers that use climate-friendly practices to grow nutrient-dense food to feed your constituents.

Currently in Oregon, it is legal to water a ½ acre garden or use 5,000 gal/day for a commercial purpose using a domestic well, but neither of those apply to growing food and farm products for sale. This has become a deal-breaker; some of our farms have gone out of business because they are only ½ acre, and use a domestic well. They were forced to cease food production, and instead their community needed to purchase food that was produced in another country, shipped here, and tasted worse than farm-fresh food.

We need to be thoughtful about what we prioritize for water use in our state. This bill is a simple, common-sense solution that would allow people to sell the food and farm products that are already legal to grow, while adding reasonable limitations to the amount of water that can be used.

Give communities back the ability to feed and provide for themselves, and pass HB 3372 A!

Respectfully,

Holly Hutchason Executive Director