

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

My name is Steve Muir, and I am a Community Member from West Linn, OR. I am writing today to support HB 3372 A.

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 is unreasonable, lacks common sense and makes it increasingly difficult to source locally grown produce. Why is it legal to use the water for personal use, but if I should be selling vegetables from my garden, I would be breaking the law?

This personally impacts me because I am committed to buying locally grown / community grown food wherever possible vs. food that is imported from other states and other countries.

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.

Please give communities back the ability to feed and provide for themselves and lessen our dependence on big Ag. and Big Pharma! Please pass HB 3372 A!

Thank you,

Steve Muir

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