

Submitter:	Randi Embree
On Behalf Of:	HB 3372
Committee:	Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3372

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

My name is Randi Embree and I am a farm owner on Farm/Timber land near Silverton. 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. Why is it legal to use the water for personal use, but selling a single zucchini from my garden would mean I was breaking the law?

This personally impacts me because my husband and I raise beef, sheep and chickens on our land and I produce value added products under the farm direct program. I am able to use mainly wild blackberries, hawthorn and elderberries and tree fruit we do not irrigate for my jams, jellies and shrubs. I would like to add cucumber pickles and other items from my garden to our offerings to increase our income.

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!

Thank you,

Randi Embree

Embree Family Farm

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