

Submitter: Kirsten Romero

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

My Name is Kirsten Romero and I am a community member in Bandon. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to HB 4153. Farm stands support the community through local access to fresh produce and provide needed income and visibility for small family-run farms. HB 4153 would restrict who is allowed to have a farm stand, replace current definitions with Farm Stores, and give large land owners privileges at the expense of small farmers in Oregon.

I care about this issue because HB 4153 would close most of the nearby farm stands in coastal Coos and Curry counties, limiting the opportunity for our community to access locally-grown and raised farm products. Losing this sales outlet would be detrimental to our small farmers and potentially force the closure of local farms.

I am asking you to not place a higher burden on the smallest farms. This bill takes away opportunities from small land holders and farms in order for larger operations to be able to host more events. This is not a good bargain for Oregon and a better deal must be found.

Thank you,

Kirsten Romero
Bandon, Oregon