

Submitter: Deb Buitron

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 4153. My family moved to Port Orford 17 years ago, and we were thrilled to discover the wonderful local farm stands and you-pick-it farms available. Picking our own blueberries and strawberries every year allows us both a fun family activity and the ability to get the highest quality berries at a very reasonable price. We also greatly enjoy the local farm stands that provide a variety of other high quality vegetables and fruit.

Our local small farms are a valuable asset to the community, and provide us with healthy food. Their farm stands are a vital part of connecting the public with our food system and building an understanding of what it takes to go from field to fork. But 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 farm stands in Oregon. We need to find a better solution.

We are 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.

Please oppose HB 4153.

Thanks you,
Deb Buitron
Gary Nuechterlein
Emily Nuechterlein