



9880 SE Revenue Rd. Boring OR 97009

February 4, 2026

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Testimony in support of House Bill 4153

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Riley Bushue. My parents, siblings, and I operate Bushue's Family Farm, a multi-generation commercial farming operation in Boring, Oregon. We write in strong support of House Bill 4153.

Approximately 25 years ago, after facing years of difficult pricing and challenging wholesale markets for our crops, we took a leap of faith in a new direction. With a pop-up canopy, a scale, and a questionable amount of planning, we opened our farm to public thru u-pick and related on-farm experiences. This avenue for marketing and selling a variety of crops and related items has allowed us to keep farming.

Rising input and regulatory costs are already stretching the limits for many family farms to stay farming, let alone consider transitioning to the next generation of ownership. The current regulatory uncertainty around whether some of our on-farm activities, such as play areas and value-added product sales, that assist in marketing our crop only makes it worse. House Bill 4153 provides needed clarity and protection for on-farm activities we currently provide, and protects options for potential new opportunities to grow in the future.

Today, my kids and nieces (the fifth generation) have the opportunity to learn to farm like my siblings and I did, and my dad and his siblings did, growing up: from the ground up. The clarity and certainty provided by House Bill 4153 is important for our family farm to remain viable for us to carry it forward for the next generation.

As more people are further detached from agricultural production, "agritourism" provides a unique and enjoyable bridge over the rural-urban gap across multiple generations. Families who took a chance on us early on now return with their grandkids. It's both astonishing and heartwarming to see the community we've built, receive their support, and see so many across all

walks of life experience a piece of Oregon agriculture, build family traditions, and enjoy the farm and land we've loved and stewarded for nearly 100 years.

At a time when so many policies seem to be divisive, these types of shared understanding and relationship building are more important than ever for all farms in Oregon. House Bill 4153 protects and fosters those opportunities, and supports family farms like ours.

On behalf of the three generations of the Bushue family currently involved with Bushue's Family Farm, I urge your strong support and prompt passage of House Bill 4153 to ensure family farms like our can keep farming for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Riley Bushue". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Riley Bushue