

Submitter: Teresa Bird

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I live in Port Orford, and have worked for both small and large farms and ranches for over 10 years. Based on what I know about this community and our agriculture, I believe this is a bad bill for rural communities. We need to support every small operation who's providing food for their neighbors. Over the years I've seen some farmers and ranchers in the community turn to agrotourism as travel oregon and other groups have promoted it, but we saw in 2020 how fragile that economy is. What we also saw in 2020 how much our community needed and supported every small farmer in this area. We need support to enable us to even become more self-sustaining, not more dependent on people passing through. True support of our farming community would not jeopardize the feasibility of small operations, current or aspiring, in favor of larger operations.