

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 4153 as it is currently written.

As proposed, HB 4153 would require the only permitted farm stand in Clatsop County to close and would significantly limit the ability of other small or beginning farms to operate farm stands. Access to fresh, locally grown produce is already limited on the North Coast, and this bill would further reduce that access for our community.

I respectfully urge you to consider amendments that make the bill more inclusive of small and beginning farms, as well as farms that cannot meet the proposed acreage requirements due to natural constraints such as hills, woodlands, and wetlands. Oregon is home to many different types of farms, and any legislation affecting agriculture should work for all farmers—not just those with large or flat parcels of land.

We are proud supporters of the farmers in our community and do not want to see access to the high-quality food they grow restricted because of farm size or the natural features that define our beautiful corner of the state.

Thank you for your time and for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Bethany Vineyard  
Clatsop County, Oregon