

Submitter: Paul Lipscomb
On Behalf Of: OLAWA
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Please Trash House Bill 4153

House Bill 4153 would be the beginning of the end for Oregon's famed land use system.

No longer satisfied with the allowance of "farm stands" on rural lands in exclusive farm use zones, House Bill 4153 permits all Oregon counties to open their doors to farm "stores" peddling not only local farm products, but also ordinary grocery store products, including beer, wine, hard liquor, soft drinks, tobacco products, fast food, and the list could go on and on. The only real limitations would be the imaginations of potential proprietors and developers of the new "farm" stores.

As Oregonians we can pride ourselves on our preservation of our rural farmlands despite the ceaseless pressures of well-financed developers to convert them to more urban uses. It is no exaggeration to assert that this "limited" exception could gradually overtake and swallow our careful rural lands protections.

Please do not pass House Bill 4153 in this short session where its dangerous unintended consequences cannot be fully vetted and thoughtfully considered.

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