

Submitter: Julia Weinberg

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

As a Licensed Professional Counselor physical and mental wellness are a focus with clients. Local farmstands are essential for encouraging and maintaining healthy food choices for all people, especially families with small children. Exponentially more marketing dollars are spent on processed foods. Engaging with farmers and learning about unprocessed options is highly motivating for combatting the mass marketing.

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 4153. HB 4153 as written would require the one permitted Farm Stand in Clatsop County to close and limit the ability of other small or beginning farms to operate Farm Stands. We already have limited access to fresh, locally grown produce here on the North Coast, and this bill would decrease that even further.

We hope that you will consider modifying the bill to be more inclusive of small and beginning farms, as well as those farms that don't meet the proposed acreage requirements due to natural constraints such as hilly woodlands and wetlands. THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF FARMS IN OREGON, AND THIS BILL NEEDS TO WORK FOR ALL FARMERS.

We are proud supporters of the farmers in our community and do not want to see access to the wonderful food they grow limited because of their size, or the trees, hills and wetlands that make up our beautiful corner of the State.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.