

I am writing in opposition to HB 4153.

I am a small farm and small business owner in rural Oregon. Bills like HB 4153 may be presented as protective or regulatory in nature, but in practice they place additional burdens on small, family-run farms that are already struggling to survive.

Small farms operate on thin margins. We do not have legal teams, compliance departments, or the financial flexibility that large corporate agricultural operations have. Additional regulations—especially those that are vague, costly, or one-size-fits-all—push small farms closer to closure while consolidating agriculture into fewer, larger entities.

Oregon's rural economy, food resilience, and land stewardship depend on small farms. When small farms disappear, communities lose local food access, environmental care, and economic diversity.

I urge legislators to reject HB 4153 or substantially amend it to explicitly protect small farms from disproportionate harm. Please engage directly with small farmers before advancing legislation that affects our livelihoods.

Thank you for your time and consideration.