



**Oregon
Winegrowers**
ASSOCIATION EST 1981

Public Comments on House Bill 4153 -2

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

February 9, 2026

The Oregon Winegrowers Association is a member-driven advocacy organization advancing the interests of the largest agricultural economic impact sector in Oregon. We have hundreds of winery and vineyard members representing over two-thirds of Oregon's wine production. For more than 40 years, OWA has advocated for policies that support the health, growth and economic sustainability of Oregon's wine industry.

The Oregon Winegrowers Association writes to convey concerns with HB 4143 -2. As an industry we believe that a strong nexus to onsite agricultural production needs to be the cornerstone of allowing expansive commercial activities on farmland. HB 4143 -2 makes significant modifications to current permitting standards and deserves robust stakeholder consideration before passage. Examples include new acreage and income thresholds, and a square footage standard for allowing the sale of non-farm items rather than the 25% incidental income backstop.

Leading up to the permitted use winery statute modifications passed in 2013 (Senate Bill 841), the governor's office convened a broad stakeholder group including OWA, Oregon Farm Bureau, 1000 Friends of Oregon, Oregon Association of Counties, key legislators and agency representatives, and others. This led to the unanimous passage of SB 841 by the legislature. We respectfully suggest a similar stakeholder process could yield a policy that allows farms to generate income from agritourism while ensuring the connection to agricultural production remains strong. The farm stores policy is critical to the future of Oregon agriculture and should not be rushed in a short session.