

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

My Name is Stacey Givens and I have been the owner of a 1 acre urban farm called Side Yard Farm & Kitchen in Ne Portland since 2009. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to HB 4153 as it is written and the -2 amendment. Farm stands are a vital part of connecting the public with our food system and building an understanding of what it takes to go from field to fork. But HB 4153 as it is written would restrict who is allowed to have a farm stand, replace current definitions with Farm Stores, and give large land owners privileges at the expense of small farm stands in Oregon. We need to find a better solution.

I care about this because:

- I operate a farm stand that would not meet the acreage requirements in section 2.2 of the bill.
- Small farms need to have the same opportunities to sell their produce as larger farms.
- We have been feeding our community for 17 years now, just off of 1 acre of land in the city. We offer a food donation program and we are also very accessible by location which makes it easy for people to get to us if they don't have transportation.
- Why should large acreage farmers gain privileges at the expense of smaller acre farmers?
- Why are we considered to be any less legitimate than a large farm when it comes to defining farm use?
- Farm stands unite us all through food, we are able to take care of one another and make a profit to feed our own families
- For all 17 years, we have hosted hundreds of educational events, farm tours, class field trips, grief groups, dinners, community fundraisers and so much more. This is everything to us and our community

We are asking you to not have a higher burden on the smallest farms. This bill takes away opportunities from small land holders and farms in order for larger operations to be able to host more events. This is not a good bargain for Oregon and a better deal must be found. Please see what is at stake here for hundreds of small scale farmers and how this will impact our local food community.

Thank you,

Stacey Givens (owner)  
Side Yard Farm & Kitchen  
4800 Ne Simpson St  
Portland Or 97218