

Submitter: Amy Houchen

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

“Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair McDonald, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 4153.

Please vote NO on HB 4153.

I have nothing against real farmstands, small structures that seasonally sell the produce of the farm they are on. But allowing nonfarm commercial uses such as unrelated retailing, restaurants and event venues on agricultural land drives up the cost of farmland, takes it out of agricultural production, and spurs increasing traffic on rural roads. So much for Exclusive Farm Use! My family members who are farmers agree that nonfarm development makes farming harder.

I respectfully ask you to oppose HB 4153 and to support Oregon’s core land use principles: Protecting farmland, supporting production agriculture, and ensuring the vitality of our cities and towns by keeping nonfarm commercial development where it belongs.

Keep Oregon's agricultural heritage secure. Please vote “No” on HB 4153.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Amy Houchen