

Submitter: Lindsey Davis

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Dear Legislators,

I am a third generation family farmer. I now own a small 1.3 acre farm in the edge of Silverton. My little farm has been a blessing to my family and the community. It has allowed us a better quality of life and the ability to have a farm stand and share what we grow here, mostly cut flowers with the community.

We do not meet any of the qualifications that this new bill proposes we should. The whole reason we bought this property, five years ago was to have a backyard farm. I can't imagine anyone now saying we have to stop what we are doing, because we weren't big enough & don't make enough money. It's just the right amount to allow me to stay home in the summers with our kids and pay for the farm expenses. Not much more, but just enough to allow it to work and to still make a great contribution to our community and the land itself.

We grow everything organically & use many natural methods that enhance the land and habitat. My perennial pollinator cutting garden for instance was once an unproductive side yard of grass and weeds. We transformed into a beautiful sustainable space that wildlife enjoys year round.

Please consider small farmers before you put a bill like this in place. I believe that small family farming should be protected above any other type. There is such a disturbing disconnection between farm and families these days. So many children not understanding how a chicken lays an egg, how cows produce milk, how fruits and veggies make it to the table. I believe protecting farms at all levels and doing everything in our power to encourage farming even on a small scale is the only responsible way to turn that around.

Thank you for your time!

Lindsey Davis

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