

Submitter: Leslie Wallace
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

My Name is Leslie Wallace and I am a COMMUNITY MEMBER that uses a local CSA from a small volunteer run farm in Eugene as well as several other friends who have small local farms. 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 frequently go to 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.
- I have several friends who have small farm stands. A few of them this is their livelihood! I'd hate to see a house Bill damage their livelihood and change their way of life for the last several decades.
- Why should a small farm be any less legitimate than a large farm when it comes to defining farm use? It should not be!!
- If farms become agritourism events, and not just the sale of their produce... Several of my friends will be out of business! Don't penalize them.

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.

Thank you,

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