

Submitter: Jessica Wilson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

I support some of the contents of HB 4153, but I believe that there is a serious flaw that needs revision. I live in Eugene and buy most of my spring/summer/fall produce from farm stands operated by small farms. I rarely see the same people when I go to the stands, which indicates there are quite a few people benefiting from these healthy local products. This is in addition to the benefits for the families who run the farms and all the people they employ. Allowing farms additional opportunities to host income-producing events makes sense, but I don't understand why this bill includes restricting the right to have a stand to farms with 10+ acres or a minimum in gross sales. This will make it much more difficult for people to start new farms, it will put some current farms out of business, and it will reduce access for members of the community. We should be looking for ways to increase access to local farm products, not reduce it. This part of the bill does not benefit the community in any way; it should be removed.

Thank you,
Jessica Wilson
Eugene, OR