

Submitter: Angela Rose
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or HB4153
Topic:

Dear Representative: I am writing as a member of a sixth-generation, family-owned farm in Silverton and as someone whose life has been deeply shaped by Oregon agriculture. Some of my earliest memories are of helping my uncle work his farm stand in the 1980s and 1990s, serving local neighbors who came for fresh vegetables and fruit. Those experiences helped me understand the value of farming, community, and local food. I also grew up working on my family's seed farm, learning the hard work and dedication that goes into producing crops for Oregon and beyond.

Over the years, I have appreciated visiting other local farms that have opened their doors to the public. Taking my own children to these farms has allowed them to learn firsthand how different types of farming are done. This kind of hands-on education is something our state—and especially our children—desperately need. Experiences like these cannot be replicated in classrooms alone.

Oregon produces an incredible diversity of crops—strawberries, cherries, apples and vegetables. My family's farm alone produces over 100 varieties each year of flowers for seed production. The diversity we have here is not found elsewhere in the United States. Farm stands and agritourism allow visitors to step into working farms, ask questions, and better understand where their food comes from. Just the simple joy of pulling over on a road trip to buy a basket of freshly picked fruit is something we often take for granted, but it is exactly what makes our region unique.

HB?4153 would provide clarity and support for farm permit holders, making it easier for farmers like my family to open our farm to the public, sell our crops directly, and provide these educational opportunities.

By supporting HB?4153, you are helping preserve Oregon's agricultural heritage, strengthen rural economies, and ensure that future generations can enjoy the same meaningful farm experiences I had as a child. I urge you to stand with Oregon's farmers and support this important legislation.

Thank you for your time and for considering your support of Oregon's farming families and agricultural future.

Sincerely,
Angela Rose
Silverton, Oregon