

To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
RE: **HB 4153 – The Farm Store Bill**

Dear Committee Co-Chairs and Members,

Across our country, farming is becoming the business of mega-corporations. Oregon has held out thus far, but our heritage of supporting small family farms is now at risk.

Small family farms are how we feed our communities, support local economies, and central to our identity as Oregonians.

Oregon's small family farms are under attack by HB 4153, as written. If it is not changed to protect small family farmers, **legislators should oppose it**. If it is changed to support small family farmers, it could be a good bill.

HB 4153 allows for farm stands – a good thing – but the draft legislation favors large corporate farms at the expense of small family farms.

That's bad for Oregon.

Talk to people at your local farmer's market. They include multigenerational and newer farmers, all committed to providing farm-to-table products. Newer and younger farmers often start with a small plot of land. They need to diversify their income to make a living. Having a farm stand helps. HB 4153 will harm these small farmers by **prohibiting** their new farm stands.

This is an issue for all Oregonians, whether you know the joy of farm living or simply want to support those putting food on our tables.

Please support our small family farms and **oppose HB 4153** as written.

Sincerely,



Jamie McLeod-Skinner
Terrebonne, Oregon