

Submitter:

Sarah Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

My Name is Sarah Smith, and I am a small farmer and community member in Clackamas County. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to HB 4153. Farm stands are a valuable part of Oregon communities, allowing small farms to sell directly to their neighbors. But HB 4153 would restrict who is allowed to have a farm stand, replace current definitions with Farm Stores, and give large landowners privileges at the expense of small farm stands in Oregon. We need to find a better solution.

Preserving farmland for actual FARMING must be a priority. Land prices continue to rise, making it difficult for new farmers to find space to grow. Small farms are vital to our food supply chain; small farms often have the ability to quickly pivot when needed.

Please, do not put a higher burden on the smallest farms. Please maintain Oregon's agricultural land for agriculture.

Thank you,

Sarah Smith
Milwaukie, Oregon