

Submitter: David Mauk
On Behalf Of: Charbonneau District
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

As a former owner of an agricultural business in a rural community, I understand the complexity of operating and sustaining a business that grows food. When the 'farm' is sidelined or removed from the business, then the land's primary purpose is erased. Enabling farms to sell their crops on site, and for consumers to buy goods, food, and enjoyment on the farm property, while maintaining the primary purpose of producing food, is an important value-added element. Turning prime ag land into 'Disneyland' is a subtraction not an addition. Incentives for converting food-producing property into recreational uses is opening Oregon up to ceaseless commercialization, where there's currently countryside. To do this is a slippery slope in a rainstorm.