

Submitter: Theresa Haskins

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Our Oregon farmers need access to customers, especially in these current times where global tariffs and politics increasingly limit their markets. Our Willamette Valley has a bounty of products grown here and Oregon, in total still derives much of its economic vitality from agriculture and related industries. There is no way to understand the interrelatedness of these economic impacts, our history and our nutrition except to connect with where all three come together on the farm. Markets, stores, events and tours on farm properties create invaluable opportunities for kids and adults alike to understand the origin of the foods we eat or clothes we wear. I grew up on a farm and volunteer with the harvest festival at E.Z. Orchards. I've heard so many testimonies of those who visited as kids and now bring their own kids or grandkids. They value and respect the family farm and begin to understand how hard it is to keep one going in this era.

I emphatically urge you to support HB 4153. This bill is key to helping ensure that family farms have a marketplace and can continue to educate our kids and communities about how things grow and why so many of our ancestors followed the Oregon Trail to here.