

Submitter: Jason Lampman
On Behalf Of: LampLand Farms
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4153

Thank you Co-Chairs, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,
My name is Jason Lampman. My wife and 3 small children live on and operate a small 1 acre farm. I am writing in support of the HB 4153.

Although I do not think there should be any income restrictions for sub-5 acre farms I appreciate the amendment adding in the lowered \$10k requirement instead of \$40k which would be unreasonable for small farms like ours. With crop rotation and the nature of farming crop failure due to weather or pests is a common occurrence negatively affecting yearly income.

This bill will help small farms because a farm stand or store's direct sales are so incredibly necessary for the survival of new and small farms that can't survive on wholesale alone. Allowing small farms to be able to sell direct with the addition of minimal retail items is also a huge plus.

I understand we must always protect farm land from unnecessary land development. That being said I do not think that the hypothetical situations I heard in the public hearing would realistically be able to happen. There are numerous checks and balances already worked into the Oregon Revised Statues that protect farmland and strictly restrict building and use of Exclusive Farm Use zoned property. There are also numerous rules and zoning regulations at the county level. The bill clearly states which uses, farm products, and activities are approved.

I think we can all agree that the financial strain on small farms is real and that rules regarding farm stands could use a more modern interpretation. While working on this bill please remember the smallest farms in our state. We need your support to ensure we have the best chance of survival.

Thank you,
Jason