

The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

HB 4153 A - Use of farm land for commercial stores - OPPOSE

Action Items

Ask members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means & BOTH of your State legislators to **OPPOSE** the bill.

Find Committee Members [HERE](#)

Find your State Legislators [HERE](#)

Bill Information

HB 4153 would allow non-compatible commercial activities such as large retail stores to be established on Exclusive Farm Use land in Oregon. The bill would allow up to 10,000 sq ft permanent retail stores selling all types of products with no requirement that products be related to agricultural operations.

LWVOR [testimony](#) | [OLIS Information](#)

Talking Points

- There is nothing in the bill to address increased traffic and other impacts such uses will have on neighboring agricultural operations.
- Discretionary language in the bill stating that counties "...may adopt siting standards for farm stores..." would lead to insufficient regulation and lack of public accountability.
- There should be clear and objective standards as to what is allowable on farmland in Oregon. This bill does the opposite. It allows too many activities unrelated to the primacy of agricultural operations.

Legislative Priority

SUPPORT NATURAL RESOURCES agencies that address water, land use and wildfire, retaining important staff expertise and data collection. Support policies that protect and enhance Oregon's land, sea and air, especially from threats from new federal government actions.