

From: Scottie Jones sjones@leapinglambfarm.com
Subject: Comment on ODA Board Agritourism Resolution 310
Date: February 7, 2020 at 3:40 PM
To: kvalness@oda.state.or.us



Dear Karla,

I would appreciate you adding my below email to the Board of Agriculture Public Comments section for their February 11-13 meeting.

Thank you. Scottie Jones, Leaping Lamb Farm, Alsea

To the Board of Agriculture

My name is Scottie Jones. I own and operate Leaping Lamb Farm in Alsea with my husband, Greg. We raise locker lamb and grow hay. We also host a farm stay and offer farm tours to visitors. We have been farmers since 2003 and hosts since 2007 so have a good understanding of the economic challenges and benefits we experience from both.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to comment on Resolution 310 relating to siting of agritourism. I am writing to request that the Board NOT APPROVE the current resolution and instead solicit input from the community to create a revised resolution that adequately meets the needs of farmers today and provides a structure to preserve both our land, heritage and opportunities to generate revenue by having guests on our property for the purposes of events, tours, classes and overnight stays.

We have not only experienced sustainability on our farm from hosting stays and tours, we feel there is a much longer tail to this story. We are a bridge to a growing rural-urban divide; we acquaint urbanites with our farming practices and our fresh food; we provide rural economic development in our local community with job creation and business opportunities; we see guests who come back year over year to share in our lifestyle and support our farming endeavors; and we keep our farm in farming rather than sell off to become a nice farm house on unproductive acreage.

Please solicit our input before approving this resolution!

Sincerely,

Scottie Jones
Leaping Lamb Farm
20368 Honey Grove Rd
Alsea OR 97324