

Chair Clem, members of the committee, my name is Jerome Rosa and I am Executive Director of the Oregon Cattleman's Assn. I represent nearly 2000 members across the state, and Beef is Oregon's second largest agricultural product.

In 2018 there were approximately 511 CAFO' s in the state. I personally hold one of those permits which makes me acutely aware of the complexities of the program. There are 30 Beef cattle ranching, farming and backgrounding operations and 134 cattle feedlots. Combined beef accounts for 164 of the total CAFO' s in Oregon.

OCA has been and continues to be a long-time supporter of the CAFO program. It is important to maintain a strong and well-respected program. In 2004 there were 583 CAFO's and in 2018 there were 511 CAFO' s representing a decline of over 12%. Additionally, over 10% of these CAFO's are not in operation creating a more limited and simplified inspection process.

OCA participated in the fee structure discussions but also see's a need for a more fiscally responsible budget that reflects the aforementioned CAFO declining numbers state wide. In a struggling financial animal ag economy raising fees is currently problematic.

Thank you very much for the time today and the excellent work done by this committee.