

SB 583 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Makes Legislative findings. Defines "industrial dairy" as a concentrated or confined animal feeding operation that has at least 2,500 cows. Prohibits Department of Environmental Quality and State Department of Agriculture from issuing or renewing license or permit to allow construction or operation of: new industrial dairy; addition to or expansion of existing industrial dairy; or addition to or expansion of dairy that would cause dairy to become industrial dairy. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The legislature first established a regulatory program for confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in 1989. The legislation directed the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to issue CAFO permits and the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to inspect CAFO facilities. In 1993, the CAFO statutes were amended to direct the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) and ODA to enter a formal memorandum of understanding authorizing ODA to perform the CAFO-related functions of DEQ and the EQC.

Most CAFO permits are for dairy operations, but other types of operations with concentrated, confined holding, or feeding of animals, also require a permit. At the end of 2018, there were 519 permitted CAFO facilities in Oregon.