

I am submitting my statement of support for SB-583. I care about climate change, air quality, water quality, human rights, animal rights, and responsible agriculture. Clean air and water regulations should apply to all animal and agriculture production and processing facilities, including and not limited to large-scale concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) and frankly if they were applied to these other entities, the majority of them would not be able to exist anymore.

In the last 24 years Oregon has seen an increase in large dairy farms, but mega-dairies with over 2500 cows are fairly new to the scene. The detrimental impact of these large-scale operations receives widespread attention - locally and nationally. Legislative attempts to enforce a moratorium on mega-dairies failed in 2019 unfortunately. Research on the environmental and health impacts associated with the raising of livestock is ongoing, but we do know there are critically important reasons to be concerned about the impacts of large-scale dairies on climate change and public health.

The expansion of industrial dairies from an environmental standpoint and a human rights standpoint - especially for people of color and lower income individuals. There are already a large number of food processor, industrial agriculture, and existing industrial dairy operations in the Lower Umatilla Basin, all of which contribute to nitrate loading in the area. To allow further expansions of industrial dairies is a formula for increased nitrate loading thereby leading to human health problems, and degradation of agricultural lands. Workers in these facilities experience high levels of asthma-like symptoms, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases. This is especially concerning in today's world, when COVID-19 is proving deadly to those with weakened immune systems and respiratory issues. The long-term effects of CAFO waste on water quality is also concerning. A moratorium should be placed on industrial dairies in Oregon until the environmental and health impacts are thoroughly studied.

Respectfully, Deanna Cintas