

From my understanding, the killing of mink is not at all necessary to stop covid from spreading. Considering there was only one mink farm in Oregon with positive covid cases in Nov. 2020. They went into quarantine immediately and worked with state veterinarians and state & federal agencies to contain the virus. The farm is now clear of covid and we should consider this a success as opposed to misrepresenting the incident as a statewide threat. They've curbed the spread of covid and SB 832 should not be passed under the guise of protecting people from covid. There is no good reason to destroy the farmers' livelihoods, kill and waste the mink, and break a very large supply chain (that affects many people) to appease a few that say they are concerned with covid spreading. I understand that people are concerned about the virus, but SB 832 is going way too far, and it's definitely not fair to the farmers. Farmers should not be required to find a new profession, and the people supporting this movement in Oregon should be ashamed. It's very sad that everyone is getting on the "ban fur" bandwagon these days, especially considering fur is far better for the environment than many other materials. Is everyone going to wear synthetic materials (that never biodegrade and many get washed into our waterways and absolutely can not be filtered out of our drinking water - they also cause cancer) for the rest of humanity? It's unnecessary and wrong to kill & waste these mink and take away the farmers' livelihoods. You're messing with a very large supply chain that reaches many people. This is far larger than just killing (and wasting) a few mink, this is a supply chain that will affect my life, income, and employment among many others I know. These mink are worth a lot of money, and these farmers have put decades of time and generations of expertise into growing and taking care of the mink, and the mink absolutely should not be wasted and the farmers should not be punished. If you're going to kill the mink, at the very least, use the animals as you would before covid, do not waste them. But, the farmers should NOT be forced to kill them, much less waste the mink. I urge you to oppose this unfair legislation which eliminates the livelihoods of the farmers and many that rely on fur industry for their income, many will be forced out of work, which is not ideal during a time when we're experiencing record unemployment in America, due to covid. Please vote NO to SB 832. Thank you for considering my comments.