

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today to express my concerns opposing SB 583, We are a family run dairy operation employing over 50 full time employees. This bill would not affect our operation, however the Oregon department of Ag's CAFO program has some of the strictest regulations in the country, we are all held to very high standards to protect ground water and our soils. Dairies in Oregon are already suffering from low prices and higher costs of production and labor. Dairy farmers do not set the price for the milk they work hard to produce, if costs go up, which they keep going up, we must figure out how to make ends meet to stay in business. Care levels for our animals are higher than ever, healthy cows produce high quality milk. In 2020 Oregon had 11 farms go out of business, sadly more will go out of business. The issues with the lost valley gave our whole industry a black eye, however the Oregon department of Ag's CAFO program worked like it should to shut this operation down. Please keep in mind the dairies Oregon still has today continue to produce the high quality dairy products we all consume in one way or another.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Robert Kircher