

Dear OR Senate Committee on Energy & Environment, Senator Lew Fredrick, & Representative Tina Kotek

My name is Laura G Turnbull; I live in the north Portland neighborhood of Arbor Lodge and am a recently retired landscape architect, water quality specialist, and city planner. I'm writing today regarding SB 583, the need for inclusion of all types of industrial animal operations and, specifically, the threat posed by the proposed Foster Farms poultry operations.

The state of Oregon needs to protect the economy and environmental quality in our rural communities. Big AG and industrial animal operations undermine rural communities by driving out independent and family owned farming and animal production operations and replacing pride of ownership with low paying, tedious, "factory" type employment. At the same time, the environmental quality is degraded at an increased rate of impact due to the size of the operation. Water quality is regularly degraded by such concentrated animal situations. Pollutants ends up in our streams and rivers where it negatively impacts salmon habitat and can impact human health &/or make the water way unusable for recreation. Polluted waterways then create another negative economic impact in rural areas through decreased recreation and tourism. In addition, the industrial operations provide extremely poor living conditions for the animals they breed and "harvest".

I'm writing to encourage all legislators to not only support SB 583 but to also add language to the amendment to expand the moratorium to all types industrial animal operations. Our state and its rural communities are currently being targeted by Foster Farms, a California company. It seems we have little recourse to protect our community, our property, or our health from the negative impacts this operation will bring. Our only recourse requires action by you in the form of an amended SB 583. As an Oregonian, I have a vested interest in protecting the viability of rural communities and the environments I love to visit for rejuvenation and recreation. Living in a state with so much high quality and accessible open space, state & federal parks lands, wilderness areas, and the recreational opportunities they afford is of major importance to my neighbors and me. These are the qualities we love and what make Oregon special!

Please protect our state from exploitation by companies that will undermine our economy and environmental quality by supporting a strengthened, all encompassing, SB 583 amendment and expanded moratorium on all types industrial animal operations.

Sincerely,

Laura G Turnbull, ASLA, PLA (KS)