

Dear Committee,

Please OPPOSE SB 832.

As a farmer ourselves we feel that shutting down mink farmers in the state of Oregon will be only the beginning to shutting down other types of livestock farming including poultry, dairy and cattle ranching to name a few. If these farming styles go against social interest groups ideals, they will attempt to chase these out of our state and then what will happen to agriculture in Oregon. We need all types of farming including mink farming.

To add insult to injury to take away the mink farmer's private property without compensation allowing them to lose their livelihood and family farm is outrageous and not right. And what will happen to this property? More houses? Granting them a "loan" which they will need to pay back to relocate or find new employment is also not right. Many of these farms have been in the same family for generations and have taken care of the animals and property in sustainable ways.

Those of us farmers who raise livestock care for both the animals we raise and the land upon which we raise them. They become a part of our life and we work hard to care for all of it. Farmers work harder and longer than most people in this state and deserve to be appreciated not condemned under false premises.

Please OPPOSE SB 832

Thank you,
Ed and Lisa Heilman
Oregon City, OR