

Submitter: Dr Carrie Ebling

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 85 which would enact a moratorium on new and expanding CAFOs in Oregon, like the 13+ million chickens being proposed by Foster Farms, across four mega CAFO sites, some of which sit on the banks of the North Santiam River.

A few of my primary reasons for supporting this bill are as follows:

Factory farms are dangerous for health and the environment. The overuse of pesticides and fertilizers can pollute our rivers and lakes, killing fish and other aquatic life. In other places across the country, excessive use of antibiotics in CAFOs has also led to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, posing a serious threat to human health.

Exposure to pollution from factory farms can cause serious long-term health issues for young children, including developmental delays, cognitive impairments, and chronic respiratory illnesses.

Corporate-controlled industrial animal agriculture like the kind being proposed in Oregon, can have disastrous economic consequences on rural areas. These operations often prioritize short-term profits over long-term sustainability, leading to environmental degradation, health hazards, and economic instability.

In contrast to CAFOs, small farms prioritize sustainable agriculture practices that are beneficial to the environment, public health, and the local economy. These operations can provide a range of economic opportunities for local residents, such as direct sales to consumers, farmers' markets, and community-supported agriculture programs. They also foster economic diversity, resilience, and innovation by promoting collaboration among local businesses and supporting the development of niche markets.

I stand with Oregon's rural communities and stop these corporate entities from harming our beautiful state.

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