

Submitter: Margot Bigg

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

My name is Margot Bigg and I'm from Portland, Oregon. I'm writing to express my profound support of Senate Bill 85-1 CAFO Moratorium. Factory farms are not only cruel and inhumane to animals, but they're also unsafe for the human beings in our community.

It's no secret that factory farm workers are exposed to unsafe working conditions and hazardous fumes, and risk direct exposure to diseases ranging from avian influenza to H1N1.

While those of us in Portland and some of Oregon's larger cities might have an out-of-sight, out-of-mind attitude toward factory farms, it's not so easy for those living in rural communities. The people who are most profoundly impacted by these mega-farms are the backbone of our food system: the frontline agricultural workers whose hard, underappreciated work is what helps us keep food on our tables. If that's not enough, factory farms also threaten the livelihood of our state's small-scale family farmers, many of whom have been producing food for fellow Oregonians for generations.

We can do better for our communities and for our state. Let's put an end to the construction of concentrated animal feeding operations. Thank you.