

Submitter: Gregory Schneider  
On Behalf Of: Scio Community Improvement Organization  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources  
Measure: SB85

The Scio Community Improvement Organization was established in 2004. Our purpose is to make Scio and the surrounding area a better place to live, a better place to raise a family and a better place to return to. We work to make our city and the surrounding region more attractive to visitors and commerce. To that end we have established work groups that focus on business and tourism, recreation and parks, community pride and beautification, and communication. We are a community improvement organization that proudly works in our rural, agricultural community to make life better for ourselves and our families and the wider community, to that end we ask you to support SB 85-1.

To remain true to our purpose and the work we are engaged in we believe it is important to support SB 85-1. The bill establishes a reasonable, evidence-based process for permitting the establishment of, or expansion of industrial confined animal feeding operations only after their impacts on air quality, climate, water quality, water supplies, small- and medium-sized livestock farms, community and worker health, and animal welfare have been adequately studied.

This part of Linn County is known for our beautiful farms, covered bridges, creeks, rivers, and quaint downtown Main Street. We believe that our area's natural beauty, rich history, and unique cultural offerings make it an ideal destination for visitors looking to escape the hustle and bustle of city life.

We are deeply concerned that the State's current rules don't adequately address the impacts that a proposed mega chicken factory could have on our community.

Specifically, we are concerned that Oregon doesn't require industrial-scale livestock operations to mitigate emissions, which not only could have an impact on our community but could pollute the creeks and rivers that so many come to this area to enjoy. We are also concerned that there appears to be no mechanism for our local counties to exercise authority over the siting of these operations or the impact the additional traffic will have on our county roads.

As an organization and as rural Oregonians, we support all types of agriculture. However, we need to ensure that what is important to our area for the other businesses, farms, and the people who live here will also be protected.

Please support SB 85-1, a reasonable, evidence-based process for permitting the establishment of, or expansion of industrial confined animal feeding operations only after their impacts on air quality, climate, water quality, water supplies, small- and medium-sized livestock farms, community and worker health and animal welfare have been adequately studied.

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