

Dear Senator Golden and members of the Committee:

We are writing to ask you to support SB 85-1 as it pertains to large Tier 2 CAFOs. While we neither support nor oppose CAFO's at this point, we wish to ensure there are efforts to properly evaluate the impact of such facilities before they are in place, not after.

My wife and I currently own a business in downtown Scio. As business owners, we have been involved in work to ensure that our Main Street is vibrant and that our community is a place that people want to live, work and raise a family. We have also been engaged in work to create a community that people want to visit because our local tourism brings dollars to our local businesses.

As residents and business owners in this community, we cherish the rural character and natural beauty that makes our town so special. We are not opposed to agriculture in the least and our business partly depends on it. However, we are interested in knowing that major agricultural operations, unprecedented in size for our area, are coming into the area with adequate protections in place to safeguard our existing residents, farms and businesses. Without the passage of this bill, that simply will not occur.

Mike and Melodee Scofield  
Scio