

Submitter: Sally Welter
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources
Measure: SB85

Regarding SB 85-1

I am in support of SB 85-1 because we need to keep our water and air clean. Public control over loop holes in current laws is a vital right for us as citizens.

Please remember Tom McCall, the Republican Governor, who fought against the stench along I -5 near Albany. He saved our Oregon beaches, too. His eye on what could happen here in Oregon was far reaching. It is better to be careful than prioritize the pockets of huge Mega corporations.

The ground water is still contaminated in Umatilla and Morrow Counties due to CAFOs there.

<https://www.opb.org/article/2022/05/05/groundwater-pollution-eastern-oregon-counties-drinking-water-at-risk-farming-wells/>

Oregon has great Tourism value. It looks so much like France. Why do we save our covered bridges if tourists will have to endure several eye sores of huge barns of chicken factories along their way?

I listened to the public testimony today as well as the informational meeting on 2/28/2023. I hear the concerns of those opposed to SB 85-1. Much of the information they offered had to do with the here and now without a care regarding the invasion of Mega CAFOs. I was invited to visit a small CAFO. This was a kind gesture, however the future risk of a water grab and health affects by pollution is being covered up with generalizations and a focus on the current farm practices. Would you want one of these Mega CAFO moving in next to your home and property?

One farmer spoke of the need to increase the size of farms because of the need to retire. I worked and saved for retirement all of my life. I did not get to take yearly vacations. Our vacations, if we have them, are rarely outside of Oregon. The "us against them" mentality must stop. We need to work together using real data and collaboration. Let's be a leader in the nation in land Stewardship.

My husband and I live in rural Linn County. We lowered our well pump last year. Allowing the ever growing sizes of CAFOs without limitation is a slap in the face. The antiquated Ag laws provide a hand out to corporations. As a member of the Small

Woodlands Association, I believe in good stewardship of the land. Oregonians should have equal access to clean water and air for their homes and for raising crops and animals. The loop hole that is attracting corporations to set up polluting Mega CAFOs must be paused.

Thank you for listening.

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