

Submitter: Beth Redwood

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee

From: Beth Redwood

Re: Support for SB85, the factory farm moratorium bill

Dear Chair Golden and Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Beth Redwood and I live in Portland. I support a factory farm moratorium in Oregon. I am writing because I care deeply about Oregon being a healthy, environmentally conscious and caring place to live. For a multitude of reasons, factory farms are a direct threat to the wellbeing of our Oregon community.

Factory farms are a leading cause of environmental destruction and catastrophic climate change. These farms produce large amounts of methane and nitrous oxide which are the most damaging climate heating greenhouse gases. Please know that Oregon's 11 mega-dairy facilities produce over 17 million kilograms of methane gas every year – the same as the emissions from 318,000 passenger vehicles.

Factory farms pollute our air, water and soil, and use massive amounts of scarce resources. Oregon's 11 mega dairies use the same amount of water every day as a small city. A factory farm moratorium would protect Oregonians from the cancer-causing drinking water and toxic air quality that threatens the health of local communities.

I have known people who lived near factory farms and the contaminating putrid odor from the enormous amounts of daily manure permeated their homes, prevented them from being able to open their windows, breathe fresh air or feel healthy.

Please do not add any factory farms in Oregon. These farms threaten the ability of small family farms to survive and thrive. We are fortunate to have these farmers who are conscientious stewards of the environment, and they produce the foods that we need in ways that are healthy, safe and abundant.

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I respectfully request that you vote for SB 85 in the 2023 legislative session to protect

our Oregon quality of life, our environment and small family farms.

Sincerely,
Beth Redwood