

March 7, 2023

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee

From: Aimee Marciniak

Re: Support for SB 85- the factory farm moratorium bill

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

As a small farmer in Lebanon, I ask you to support the factory farm moratorium in Oregon.

My partner and I work hard to run a scale-appropriate dairy farm, supplying families in Lebanon, Albany, Corvallis, Philomath, Kings Valley and Newport. Our customers value the work we do to protect the land, water and air in all of our farming practices. They appreciate our commitment to animal welfare. They are committed to supporting a small farm business in their community, with people they have a relationship with. They know their money goes to directly to caring for our animals and land. They know who provides the food for their families, and what goes into it. They support us because of all these things and more.

We purchase feed and supplies from about a dozen small operators in the mid-Willamette Valley. As our dairy customers know us and our farming practices, we know these folks, their families, and what goes into their businesses. They often make special concessions for us because we are small-scale, and live in their communities, and know the work we do.

This is the kind of farming community that Oregonians value and support: many small and medium farms that value the land and community they live in; that share relationships and values with each other; that work with other small and medium farm-related local businesses; that keep money and resources in our communities.

Oregonians do not want more industrial farm production in our communities. We want our legislature to support small and medium scale family farms and the infrastructure to support them.

I urge you to vote for SB 85 in the 2023 Legislative Session to protect our small and midsized socially and ecologically responsible family farms in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Aimee Marciniak

Co-owner, Grassward Dairy

Lebanon, OR