Senator Jeff Golden Senate Committee on Natural Resources

SB 85

Monday, March 8th 8:00 AM

IN OPPOSITION

My name is Keely Moxley and I am a first generation farmer and rancher in Southern Oregon. My husband and I have built our agricultural operation from the ground up alongside my brotherand sister-in-law. Being in our mid-30's, we are considered young in our industry and any legislation will affect our business for decades to come. I am testifying against SB 85 as it would significantly affect our business, further create a food desert in our community, and have devastating effects on our community.

Our operation includes a small herd of commercial cattle. Although we ourselves are not a CAFO, many operations farther down our supply chain are. This would force us to move our business outside of Oregon thus negatively impacting Oregon's economy. It would also reduce the amount of locally available beef which is important to many Oregonians. We have very few options for finishing beef to sell direct to consumer in our area. Preventing future expansion of feedlots would further restrict our ability to provide local beef to our community.

The passing of this bill could have a huge impact on our tiny rural community as well. We have at least one CAFO which meets the definition of the operations listed in SB 85. Many of the workers of this operation are low-income or are of historically underserved populations. Changes made to these operations could drastically affect those workers as well as their families. Rural communities already have huge barriers to overcome. (I wasn't able to testify in person as our internet service isn't dependable enough.) Creating more obstacles for these communities is incredibly insensitive to those who are already struggling to make ends meet.

In closing, I am adamantly opposed to SB 85 as it would move business out of our state, reduce the amount of locally grown food available to our communities, and negatively affect the families of historically underserved populations that my kids go to school with.

Keely Moxley Mom, rancHer, Klamath County Cattlewoman