

Submitter: Anna Cowen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

I am writing to you today in strong support of a factory farm moratorium in Oregon.

- Animals in factory farms suffer immensely, enduring extreme stress and intensive confinement that causes physiological and psychological trauma.
- Chickens raised for meat, for example, are confined in crowded barns with their ammonia-filled litter, which leads to ulcerated feet, feather loss, blisters, tumors, osteoporosis, and more.
- Factory farms fuel climate change by releasing harmful and dangerous greenhouse gas emissions such as methane and nitrous oxide.
- Factory farming of chickens each year in the US, alone, produces greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to keeping 9.9 million gas-powered cars on the road.
- Factory farms drain and pollute Oregon's water resources. Oregon's 11 mega dairies consume 8.2 million gallons of water a day.
- The large quantities of waste concentrated on factory farms release airborne particulate matter linked to asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases— nationwide, factory farm air pollution is responsible for more than 12,000 premature deaths every year.
- Factory farms force workers into unsafe working conditions. Workers are often subjected to dangerous working conditions and exposed to hazardous chemicals, fumes, and particulate matter.
- Factory farms are an environmental justice issue. Many of Oregon's largest dairy factory farms are in rural Latinx communities, and these communities disproportionately suffer the adverse effects of these factory farms.