

Submitter: Kristen Shelman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB57

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Giord, and members of the committee,

My name is Kristen Shelman, Harney County Commissioner. I am submitting testimony in support of SB 57.

Harney County is one of the largest cattle producing counties in the State of Oregon. This Bill directly impacts cattle producers in Harney County and throughout the State.

I want to share some background with you that I have regarding Brucellosis. I grew up in southeast Idaho within an hour from Yellowstone Park. This region was and still is why there are concerns about Brucellosis. The Brucellosis vaccine was developed to help cattle that contracted the virus to not abort their calves. It was never developed as a preventative for contracting Brucellosis. This is why supporting SB 57-2 is so important. The mandatory vaccination that was put in place was out of a measure of precaution. There is wisdom in being cautious but as we have learned in since the vaccine became mandatory it doesn't act as any form of prevention. It does however add additional costs to producers and once again dictates how and when they will market their livestock. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is already set up to deal with this and any other disease that occurs in cattle. Please allow them to their job and fulfil their roll in disease prevention and outbreak.

Please support the passing of SB-2.