

8 March 2023

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee

From: Hank Keogh

Re: Support for SB 85 (The Factory Farm Moratorium Bill)

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

My name is Hank Keogh, and I am a farmer from Corvallis, Oregon. I am writing to you today in support of a factory farm moratorium in Oregon. We must take action to halt the expansion of factory farming in our state until we have protections in place for the environment, animal welfare, family farms, and frontline communities.

All Oregonians have a right to clean air, water, and food.

This scale of industrial production takes more than its fair share of water resources, due to an outdated portion of water law. We need to protect our water resources and prevent them from being overused and polluted by these large factory farms.

Climate change is already impacting our farm with more extreme and unpredictable weather, and these facilities are making the problem worse.

Factory farms monopolize meat processing infrastructure and make it harder for independent farmers to find processing. I want to support local small family animal farms in my community. I envision Oregon as a place where small family farms enhance rural economic stability and provide the basis for thriving and vibrant rural communities.

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

Sincerely,

Hank Keogh
Co-owner, Avoca Seed LLC
Corvallis, Oregon