

Submitter: Kyenne Williams

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

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

My name is Kyenne Williams. I was born in Eugene, raised in rural Lincoln County and currently live in Washington County. I am writing you in support of a factory farm moratorium in Oregon as I'm deeply concerned about the expansion of factory farming in our state. I'm a long-term resident and constituent who is committed to having protections in place for the environment, animal welfare, family farms, and frontline communities BEFORE there are problems - not as a way of mitigating serious concerns after the fact.

As a lifelong Oregonian, we all have a right to clean air, water, and food. I'm super concerned about the scale of industrial production which has the strong likelihood to take more than its fair share of water resources. I grew up in a state that values small family farms and a healthy food system that has the capacity to enhance rural economic stability and provide the basis for thriving and vibrant rural communities, as well as diversity of food. We know that a healthy food system is integral to the wellbeing of our communities, our agriculture, and our state - and monoculture factory farms threaten our well being as neighbors as well as a place that attracts vitality and commerce in a sustainable manner.

On a practical note, factory farms monopolize meat processing infrastructure and make it harder for independent farmers to find processing. They also attract more contract only processing facilities to the state not open to other farmers.

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,

Kyenne Williams