

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing you today to ask you to support SB 85-1. Oregon has a proud tradition of being a very farmer-friendly state. I support farmers, right to farm, and understand the importance of food producing solutions to feed all the people that depend on farmers. The issue is that these factory farms are being created without regard to the health and welfare of the communities that they are being placed into. These complexes are a big threat to our health, air quality and local streams.

In Maryland, the chicken and hog farms have pretty much destroyed the fisheries of the Chesapeake bay. All of the currently proposed Broiler CAFOs are being planned within ½ mile of a waterway. The one between Jefferson and Scio is just 400 feet from the Santiam River and across the river from an ODFW protected spawning ground for Salmon and Steelhead. Poultry CAFO's are not regulated by air emissions laws, so they can off-gas ammonia, nitrogen, and all of the byproducts of rotting manure and dead birds, which will then be captured by rain to settle onto the surrounding properties, and then run off into the rivers. The ecosystem in our area has already taken a huge hit with the forest fires in 2020. But even before that, even if our rivers and land was perfectly healthy, no land can sustain and compensate for the amount of pollution that these factory size confined poultry operations cause to their local environment. A recent study in Maryland found that up to 84% of the poultry CAFOs had water contamination violations. There is no reason to believe it would be any different here in Oregon.

As if the effect on the water and land was not bad enough, because these huge chicken factories have no regulation to their effect on the air quality around them, they cause a health hazard to people who live, work or go to school near them. According to a study done by John's Hopkins school of Public Health, "In Wicomico County, one of the top broiler producing counties in Maryland, the rate of emergency room visits due to asthma among adults is double the rate of the state overall. Another study showed a 66% increased rate of community-acquired pneumonia in the communities with chicken farms. Chicken farms also have been linked to increased antibiotic resistance in surrounding communities, increased rates of infectious diarrhea, and many other health concerns. A study published last month in JAMA reported that at the maximum EPA allowable rate of exposure to Fine Particulate Matter, people had up to 16% rate higher likelihood of suffering an MI or dying of a heart attack. Broiler CAFO's are a known producer of a high amount of fine particulate matter that has a very detrimental effect on the surrounding communities. I am linking many additional studies and articles for review to this letter.

The proposed site in Jordan is less than ½ mile away from a public school and is planning to raise 4.5 million chickens a year. My child goes to that school. I do not want my daughter breathing the poisonous off-gassing byproducts of 4.5 million chickens worth of manure and thousands of dead birds being composted just a few thousand feet away. The farmers that own the fields surrounding the school are not allowed to burn next to the school on school days because of the concern for off-gassing and particulate matter that the children might breathe in, but there are no air quality regulations on the 365 days a year off-gassing emissions of an industrial CAFO.

Maryland recently in 2021 imposed new regulations that impose stricter limits on the pollution caused by poultry and hog CAFO's, but it is very much a case of too little too late. Oregon currently does not have that type of protection in our laws. I am not saying we need to limit normal farm operations, but I do believe we need a cap on the size these biggest industrial farms until environmental protections can be put into place. This is an emergency for our communities and rivers. I am pro-farming and pro-agriculture, but if we allow Tier 2 Broiler CAFO's to get a toe hold in Oregon, everyone is going to suffer.

Sincerely,

Melody Faville BSN RN

Poultry Industry Pollution in the Chesapeake Region, Ammonia Air Emissions and Nitrogen Load Higher than EPA Estimates

<https://environmentalintegrity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/EIP-Poultry-Report.pdf>

High-density poultry operations and community-acquired pneumonia in Pennsylvania

https://journals.lww.com/environepidem/Fulltext/2018/06000/High_density_poultry_operations_and.5.aspx

Association of Long-term Exposure to Particulate Air Pollution With Cardiovascular Events in California

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2801820>

Associations of Early-Life Exposure to Submicron Particulate Matter With Childhood Asthma and Wheeze in China

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2797189>

Health effects of airborne exposures from concentrated animal feeding operations

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17384782/>

Spread of airborne antibiotic resistance from animal farms to the environment: Dispersal pattern and exposure risk

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34673316/>

Rural air quality and respiratory health

<https://iro.uiowa.edu/esploro/outputs/doctoral/Rural-air-quality-and-respiratory-health/9983777274802771>

Odour influence on well-being and health with specific focus on animal production emissions

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15627320/>

Does Animal Feeding Operation Pollution Hurt Public Health? A National Longitudinal Study of Health Externalities Identified by Geographic Shifts in Livestock Production

https://www.jstor.org/stable/20492413?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents

School proximity to concentrated animal feeding operations and prevalence of asthma in students

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16778265/>

Asthma Symptoms Among Adolescents Who Attend Public Schools That Are Located Near Confined Swine Feeding Operations

<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article-abstract/118/1/e66/69575/Asthma-Symptoms-Among-Adolescents-Who-Attend?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

Study links N.C. hog feeding operations to acute gastrointestinal illness

<https://sph.unc.edu/sph-news/study-links-n-c-hog-feeding-operations-to-acute-gastrointestinal-illness/>

Exposure to industrial hog operations and gastrointestinal illness in North Carolina, USA

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0048969722019167>

Scientific Literature Review: Available Research on Potential Human Health Impacts of Air Emissions from High-Density Poultry Farming July 2022

[https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/committees/202111-SNRWR/WorkgroupDocuments/Poultry%20CAFO%20Workgroup%20-%20Kendra%20Kimbiraskas%20\(OHA%20letter\).pdf](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/committees/202111-SNRWR/WorkgroupDocuments/Poultry%20CAFO%20Workgroup%20-%20Kendra%20Kimbiraskas%20(OHA%20letter).pdf)

Blind Eye to Big Chicken, Frequent Violations but Few Penalties for Maryland's Poultry Industry

<https://htv-prod-media.s3.amazonaws.com/files/md-cafo-enforcement-report-embargoed-for-10-28-21-1635354222.pdf>

Judge rules Maryland must regulate chicken farm air pollution

https://www.bayjournal.com/news/policy/judge-rules-maryland-must-regulate-chicken-farm-air-pollution/article_a576af78-8328-11eb-8bd9-8b13df23c6d3.html

Report: More than half of Maryland poultry farm inspections raised water pollution concerns, but just a few operators paid fines

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/environment/bs-md-chicken-farm-report-20211028-5qhpq7gcnjvbjdzhfsvksom-story.html>

Oregon water regulators asked to limit 'stockwatering exemption'

<https://waterwatch.org/oregon-water-regulators-asked-to-limit-stockwatering-exemption/>

Oregon Environmental Quality Commission Temporarily Rules Out Air Pollution Regulations for Dairy Farms

<https://www.corvallisadvocate.com/2022/oregon-environmental-quality-commission-temporarily-rules-out-air-pollution-regulations-for-dairy-farms/>

The Explosion of CAFOs in Iowa and Its Impact on Water Quality and Public Health

<https://www.iowapolicyproject.org/2018docs/180125-CAFO.pdf>

Field Burning in Oregon as it affects schools

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=2754>

(d) Field by field burning may be authorized by the Department within 500 feet of a school that is not in session, subject to the following restrictions:

(A) No burning is allowed upwind of the school;

(B) The responsible person burning the field makes a visual observation to first confirm that there are no children or other persons present on the school grounds .

(e) When burning near a school or hospital critical non-burn area, or beyond 500 feet of a school that is not in session, the Department shall take special precautions to ensure that the prevailing winds do not cause smoke to impact the school or hospital.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/ataz/other-resources.html>

A Review of Literature Concerning Odors, Ammonia, and Dust from Broiler Production Facilities: 4. Remedial Management Practices

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1056617119317441>