

Submitter: Diane Chavez

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

Re: Support for SB 85- the factory farm moratorium bill

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

My name is Diane Chavez, and I live in Salem.

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.

As a grandparent, I am concerned about creating a sustainable agriculture system that can support generations to come. That means we must preserve our soils, our water, our air quality and our climate. Factory farms are a threat to all of this, as well as being inhumane to the animals and the people who work in such systems. I personally do not want to become vegan, but if I cannot find pasture raised meats and eggs I will. I would prefer to support and protect the small scale, sustainable farmers of Oregon.

Furure generations have a right to clean air, water, and food. This scale of industrial production takes more than its fair share of water resources. Climate change is already impacting farms and these facilities are making the problem worse.

I envision Oregon as a place where small family farms enhance rural economic stability and provide the basis for thriving and vibrant communities statewide. Oregonians know that a healthy food system is integral to the wellbeing of our communities, our agriculture, and our state.

I understand that local sustainable farmers pay taxes, employ people, and buy inputs locally. These gigantic facilities are often owned by out of state folks who don't invest the community. They prioritize short term profit not the long term health of the land and the land's ability to produce food for the long term.

These facilities come in with a lot of money and take up EFU zoned land and designated High Value Soils. They outbid local, small and midsize farmers and then

don't use the land for its intended purpose. You don't need High Value Soils to build a warehouse full of 125,000 chickens, and the compaction/damage to the soil will take decades to undo. We need to use our soils in ways that can sustain generations to come.

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,

Diane Daly Chavez