

March 13, 2023

Senate Committee on Natural Resources

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and committee members, my name is Karen Harrington writing in support of SB85, with dash 1 amendment. My support is informed by my work as a climate activist (member of Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter) and because I am a mother and grandmother concerned about my family's future. My granddaughter, Kinley Jo, was born June 23, 2021 here in Portland. We brought her home in 116 degree temperature during the devastating heat dome. She was fortunate as her family had an air conditioner and they did not lose power as so many others experienced. These extreme heat events will continue and will increase without action fighting climate change. Our best defense is to reduce emissions now.

CAFO's are a bad idea for many reasons. Changing Oregon's agricultural economy to an industrial operation results in unfair competition for family farmers, air and water pollution for surrounding communities, inhumane treatment of animals, and presents an increased climate change risk due to increased GHG emissions of methane, increased deforestation to produce feedstock for the animals, and increased transportation emissions due to an increase in the amount and distance food produced on CAFO's must travel to get to market.

CAFOs exacerbate climate change. They produce large amounts of methane gas from the excessive amounts of manure stored in large liquid impoundments which result in anaerobic conditions that produce the gas. This greenhouse gas is short-lived compared to CO₂, but has far greater heat-trapping potential than CO₂, meaning it is more dangerous in the near term. As the IPCC has made abundantly clear, we must reduce global warming over the next 10 or 20 years. That means we need to cut methane emissions *now*, not increase the sources of this dangerous GHG.

Oregon must reduce GHG emissions – to meet our climate goals and to do our part in creating a more climate friendly and equitable world for future generations.

Please support SB85 dash 1.

Thank you,

Karen Harrington
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