Date: 03/14/2023

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee

From: JM La May

Re: Support for SB 85-1 the factory farm moratorium bill

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

My name is JM La May, and I live in Grants Pass, OR**.**

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.

I have personally experienced Factory Farms and the unavailability of food products from small farms and ranches due to the tactics of the Factory Farms and Ranches.

Factory farms are filthy, non-hygienic, the stench is suffocating, they are abusive to the animals, are a source for illnesses (listeria, e coli, etc) and do not provide healthy food products for people.

Factory farms and ranches contaminate the areas around them. We have lived near factory farms and have driven past them traveling between various locations. With the windows closed, the heavy stench laden air permeates and leads to an inability to breathe, the gag response is triggered and the eyes burn and tear up. This does not occur with local, family owned/operated farms and ranches.

Large factory ranches and farms are extremely overpowerful politically, which in turn leads to the ruin of smaller farms and ranches, to the detriment of quality of life, good health and financial stability for personal, local and state concerns. I have witnessed this personally when living in other states.

Factory ranches, dairies, farms tend to not fully know of or care about the local and state issues. They tend to run everything a set way ignoring the needs of communities and states. They do not care about local or state needs.

America consists of local communities, farms, ranches and local economies. In widely cited reports, over 60% of America's stable financial backbone consists of income from small business – which includes small farms and ranches.

On a more personal note - I have medical needs that require consumption of raw, unpasteurized, non-homogenized milk rather than store bought chemically altered dairy products from large dairies and ranches. I have suffered tremendously when it is not available. The places that supply my health needs are small ranches where animals are treated better, are better fed and the ranches are cleaner. Produce, dairy and meat from small ranches and farms is more nutritious, healthier, less contaminated leading to less of a need for artificial supplements. Good health is crucial to maintain and ensures a productive and non-costly life. Local farms, ranches and dairies also produce better tasting products.

Good health reduces financial burdens for local areas, for states, for families and individuals.

Locally owned ranches, dairies, farms ensure local employment, local income and balances the local economy. They benefit the state's income as well. As opposed to **factory farms, ranches dairies which funnel their revenue to other states and countries as they destroy local, state economies**.

Locally owned ranches, dairies, farms are integrally involved in local environmental issues as these affect life in general, on their properties, with their crops, animals ultimately affecting all areas of their livelihood and their family's future legacy. They are conservation focused relative to water, environment in general and they are concerned about ensuring practices that maintain safe fire procedures.

As Oregonians and as human beings, we have a right to clean air, clean water and healthy, nutritious food.

Oregon is known for beauty, fresh air, outdoor activities and small family, small farm/ranch, small businesses. **Please do not take this from us.**

I urge you to vote for SB 85-1 in the 2023 Legislative Session to protect our **small and midsized socially and ecologically responsible family farms in Oregon.**

Sincerely,

3/14/2023

X

JM La May

Signed by: a1e58211-9524-4c1e-8bb7-c3a37b10b93f

JM La May
Oregonian