

Submitter: Altamush Saeed

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 85-1

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Note: The views expressed below are my own and do not represent any organization.

Respected Chair Golden and Vice Chair Girod, Senator Prozanski, Senator Smith and Senator Taylor

I strongly urge respected members to support SB85-1 to protect the public health of the residents of OR because usage of Sub-therapeutic antibiotics can lead to microbial resistance and the advent of superbugs.

Antibiotics were approved for use as animal feed additives in 1950 after it was discovered that their use increased growth rate, improved feed utilization, and reduced mortality and morbidity from clinical and subclinical infections in animals. Subtherapeutic use of antibiotics in animal feed grew extensively and concern has arisen that this "indiscriminate" use of antibiotics could lead to increased numbers of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria and ultimately compromise treatment of human bacterial infections.

Continuous use of sub-therapeutic antibiotics can lead to the development of microbial resistance, which can result in another pandemic like Covid19.

Antimicrobial resistance is an urgent global public health threat, killing at least 1.27 million people worldwide and associated with nearly 5 million deaths in 2019, according to a report released in The Lancet. In the U.S., more than 2.8 million antimicrobial-resistant infections occur each year. More than 35,000 people die as a result, according to CDC's 2019 Antibiotic Resistance (AR) Threats Report.

Therefore, as the bill advocates for a study of environmental impacts on public health and animal welfare, the massive confinement of animals in CAFOS will always lead to illnesses that sub-therapeutic antibiotics must then treat.

The passage of SB85-1 will advocate for such a report which can conclusively offer evidence on this issue and keep Oregonians safe. I strongly urge you to consider our safety when making a final decision on this bill and that includes the health of your own family and loved ones.

Second, there are six types of drugs typically used on animals. These are

- Beta-agonists
- Steroid hormones
- Antioxidants
- Antibiotics
- Arsenicals
- Coccidiostats

It is strongly recommended that all of these types are mentioned in the report for clarity. You may find research on them here:

https://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/files/animal_drug_es_10_26_77814.pdf

Thank you