

Submitter: Samuel McBroom

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee

From: Samuel McBroom

Re: Support for SB85-1, the factory farm moratorium bill

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

My name is Samuel McBroom, and I live in Portland. I support a strong factory farm moratorium in Oregon. I support the -1 amendment to SB 85 and oppose the -3 amendment.

It is clear that the harms factory farms inflict on Oregon are not just a chicken issue. We need a strong moratorium bill that would halt the spread of mega-dairies in eastern Oregon and protect environmental justice communities nearby, which are already struggling with heavily contaminated drinking water and other pollution. Mega-dairies produce pollutants like ammonia and hydrogen sulfide that contaminate the air and lead to serious health issues for workers and surrounding communities, such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, and cancer. Many of Oregon's mega-dairies are located near rural Latinx communities, affecting these communities disproportionately, making this an environmental justice issue as well. These negative impacts, in addition to the multitude of other environmental contamination issues associated with mega-dairies, actively affect communities every day. Scoping the moratorium to only chicken factory farms is a clear demonstration of willful ignorance of these issues and cannot be added to SB 85.

Leaving mega-dairies out of the bill is an appalling environmental injustice at a time when impacted communities in eastern Oregon need urgent help. Oregon needs a time-out on factory farms, and that must be a full factory farm moratorium as proposed in SB 85-1.

Please support SB 85-1.

Sincerely,

Samuel McBroom

Volunteer with Food & Water Watch