

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

My name is Sarah Best, 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.

Oregon's 11 mega-dairy facilities **produce over 17 million kilograms of methane every year** while **squandering over 8 million gallons of water**. Additionally, Oregon's mega-dairies **produce pollutants including ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, and other hazardous fumes and particulate matter**. Workers and surrounding communities are exposed over long periods of time to these dangerous pollutants **causing health issues ranging from asthma to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic bronchitis, and everyone's favorite, cancer**.

Morrow County is home to several of Oregon's mega-dairies and consequently, **nitrate groundwater contamination** caused by mega-dairy **waste run off**. When the nitrate contaminated water is ingested, these nitrates cause **thyroid disease** and once again, **several types of cancer**.

Moreover, there appears to be **no serious oversight**. Lost Valley Farms, located in Morrow County, had **over 200 environmental violations in their first year of operation**. Regardless of the disaster of Lost Valley, the state is considering permitting Easterday Farms in the very same location. Unlike Lost Valley, Easterday Farms mega-dairy doubled down on "could not care less" and is **currently violating groundwater pollution limits- without** having animals on site.

It is obvious that the overarching damage that factory farms inflict on Oregon's environment and the people who live here involve far more than chickens alone. We need a strong moratorium bill that will halt the spread of mega-dairies in eastern Oregon and protect environment and

nearby communities already struggling with heavily contaminated drinking water and a myriad of other life-threatening pollutions.

Leaving mega-dairies out of the bill is an appalling environmental injustice at a time when the impacted communities in Eastern Oregon and the environment 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,
Sarah Best