

Submitter: Erin Kinney

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

My name is Erin Kinney, I live in Portland, and I support the -1st amendment to SB 85 and oppose the -3rd amendment.

Leaving mega-dairies out of the bill is an appalling environmental injustice; Oregon's 11 mega-dairy facilities produce over 17 million kilograms of methane every year and use over 8 million gallons of water a day.

Oregon's mega-dairies produce pollutants like ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, and more. Workers and surrounding communities are exposed to these dangerous air pollutants and experience health problems such as asthma, COPD, chronic bronchitis, and cancer.

For example, Morrow County which is home to several of Oregon's largest mega-dairies, suffers from groundwater contamination due to nitrates that have been linked to mega-dairy waste and runoff. In Morrow County, Lost Valley Farm had over 200 environmental violations in its first year of operation. Despite this, the state is considering permitting another mega-dairy, Easterday Farms, in the exact same location. Even with no animals on site, Easterday Farms mega-dairy is already violating groundwater pollution limits.

These mega dairies can only continue to function because of the billions of dollars in subsidies they receive from the US government. (\$22 Billion in 2015). The bigger these farms are, the more subsidies they receive. They poison the land and harm our communities, and in return, we get the pleasure of paying them to stay in business.

Allowing the spread of these destructive and inefficient mega dairies and farms, only to spend billions in subsidies to keep them in business is foolish and greedy. To protect our land and communities, Oregon needs a full factory farm moratorium as proposed in SB 85-1.

Please support SB 85-1.