

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee
From: Philip Carver, Ph.D.,¹ Co-coordinator 350 Salem OR²
Date: March 22, 2023

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

Dear Chair Golden, Co-chair Girod, Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee and staff

350 Salem Oregon supports an eight year moratorium on large factory farms in Oregon. We must take action to halt the expansion of large factory farms in our state until we have protections in place for the environment, animal welfare, family farms, and frontline communities. SB 85-1 is necessary to properly regulate factory farms and protect our rural communities. The -3 amendment does not go far enough and cannot be allowed to stand as our only way forward. I urge the committee to support the strongest version of this bill and vote SB 85-1 out of your committee.

- **This scale of industrial production takes more than its fair share of water resources. Current law allows unlimited groundwater pumping that can deplete aquifers for local farmers and homeowners.**
- **We all envision Oregon as a place where small family farms enhance rural economic stability and provide the basis for thriving and vibrant rural communities. Current regulation of large factory farms is inconsistent with this vision.**
- **Factory farms monopolize meat processing infrastructure and make it harder for independent farmers to find processing. They also attract more contract only processing facilities to the state not open to other farmers.**

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

Thank you for all the work you do for Oregon and the opportunity to submit written testimony.

¹ My Ph.D. is in Natural Resource and Utility Economics from Johns Hopkins University. From 1980 to 2017 I worked for the Oregon Dept. of Energy and Public Utility Commission mostly as a senior energy policy analyst.

² 350 Salem OR is a local chapter of 350.org, an international non-profit dedicated to reducing climate pollution and human-caused climate disruptions, such as the 2020 Labor Day Santiam Canyon wildfire, the June 2021 heat dome event and the 2023 “fir-magedon” dieoff of true fir trees in central and eastern Oregon.