

March 23, 2023

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Re: SB 85 -1

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and committee members, my name is Karen Harrington writing in support of SB85, with dash 1 amendment. My support is informed by my work as a climate activist (member of Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter) and because I am a mother and grandmother concerned about my family's future.

I last wrote in support of SB85 -1 on March 13. After listening to testimony to your committee this week, March 22, and the addition of the dash 3 amendment, I am again moved to write in support of the dash 1 amendment and now against the dash 3 amendment.

The family farmers, residents, and school administrators who testified on March 22 to your committee have already experienced the consequences of CAFOs in their communities. They spoke passionately about the negative impacts of CAFOs on their quality of life – increased air pollution, increased water pollution, the difficulty of local, family farms in competing with CAFOs to sell and transport their product. They struggle to compete with large industrial size farming. They should not have to do so.

The dash 3 amendment is a nod to the industry. Beef is the biggest contributor to methane in the agriculture sector<sup>1</sup>. Massive amount of cattle in a single location, dramatically impacts local air quality, water quality, and consume massive amounts of water, often already in limited supply.

Oregon is such a beautiful state! Our forests, our wetlands, and our agriculture all contribute to a healthy outdoor focused way of life that needs our protection. CAFOs have the potential to disrupt what Oregonians strive to protect. As their elected representatives, I encourage you to read their testimonies, to keep our beautiful Oregon intact for our residents, and save small local family farms.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/sep/13/meat-greenhouses-gases-food-production-study>

I encourage your support of SB85 dash 1 and reject the dash 3 amendment.

In appreciation of your service,

Karen Harrington  
West Linn

With my grandkids:

