

Submitter: Lea Heraeus
On Behalf Of: Cascades Academy Eco-Club
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SB85

I am writing in support of SB 85 as a young girl who wants future generations of animals, plants, and people to thrive and to get the happy and healthy earth that we used to have. Factory farms are a cruel, unhealthy, and stinky way to turn animals into our food. Animals are not only killed here but they spend their whole life there. The animals are forced to be crammed together swill barely any room to turn around. Chickens are kept with 9 other chickens in a cage the size of a printer paper. Cows spend their whole lives in cramped, crowded, and disgusting feedlots. Pigs are jam-packed into sheds. The animals are also kept up at night and they are forced to eat unhealthy amounts of food with antibiotics in it so that they are fat and big enough to eat. Most times they get so fat that they can't walk and often starve to death because they can't make it to their food sources. As you can see, the animals are not only cruelly killed but they also live a cruel life.

Not only do factory farms hurt the animals but they also hurt the earth. Greenhouse gases are the gases that absorb infrared wavelengths and thermal energy. Trapping the heat inside of our earth's atmosphere. The most common greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, water vapor, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone. We need a little bit of these gases in our atmosphere otherwise the world would be freezing cold. These days, humans have been dumping so many greenhouse gases into the atmosphere by using coal, natural gases, and oil to fuel cars, electricity, heat, and factories. Going vegan can help shrink up to 73% of our Co2 emissions and 45% of our methane emissions. Lately, I have seen more and more extreme weather. There have been more thunderstorms, rain, and snow. There have been colder and longer winters, with hotter and longer summers. I have seen these changes with my own eyes and I bet you have too.

Factory farming steals all of our natural resources and uses them for unnecessary purposes. It takes 31.5 kilowatts of energy to produce one pound of beef. That's a little under the amount of energy your fridge uses to run for a whole month. Also, it takes 460 gallons of water to create ¼ pound of beef patty which is the same amount of water you are using to take 23 showers. I have read many articles and heard many new reports about how our Earth is slowly drying out because of factory farms. As you can see, not only do factory farms cruelly make our food, but they also force the animals to live a horrid life, and they are killing the earth. Thank you for your consideration!