

Submitter: Matt McElligott
On Behalf Of: Oregon Cattlemens Association
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1019

As written Oregon Cattlemen's Association opposes this bill for the following reasons:

1. It increases the activation fee but not the renewal fee. This move will not significantly improve the financial health of the program. OCA membership has voted to increase the renewal fee to a maximum of \$200.00

2. Omits dairy from the program. Dairy cattle are beef cattle and should not be omitted from this program. Per ORS 599.205 all dairy breeds, lactating or not and their offspring, beef cross included would be exempt from brand fees. This move would create a large financial deficit in the program, ensuring its insolvency.

3. Feedlots over 500 head would be required to pay additional license fees creating financial harm to them.

4. Allows counties to establish brand programs: We have a state system that centralizes this data and works well. Oregon livestock industry does not need 36 different brand programs. County by county programs will increase costs to producers as they move cattle to markets through each county.

5. This bill sunsets the ODA brand program on January 2, 2028. This is a producer funded program by fee collection, there is no reason to burden the producer with the threat that the program will disband in 2028.

The affected industries asked for a simple increase in the per head inspection charge, an increase in the activation fee and an increase in the brand renewal fee.

The Oregon Cattlemen's Association urges the Committee oppose SB 1019 as written.

Matt McElligott, OCA President