

Submitter: Morgan Kromm
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1019

My name is Morgan Kromm, and I am writing to express my strong support for SB1019, which addresses critical issues within the current brand inspection program under the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). As a cattle rancher and the president of the Oregon CattleWomen, I understand firsthand the necessity of an effective and fiscally responsible brand inspection system.

Currently, the ODA's brand inspection department is operating with a major deficit, with no clear public accountability for how these funds have been allocated. This financial mismanagement not only undermines the credibility of the program but also places an undue burden on ranchers and the agricultural community that rely on a properly functioning system for livestock identification and theft prevention. A program designed to serve livestock producers should not be operating under a cloud of fiscal uncertainty without transparency.

The sunset provision included in this bill is essential. Without a firm expiration date, the inefficiencies and lack of financial accountability within the current program will continue unchecked. The sunset allows for a necessary reevaluation of the program's effectiveness and ensures that future policy decisions are based on sound fiscal practices and the needs of the industry. If a program cannot operate within a responsible budget while serving its intended purpose, it should not be allowed to continue indefinitely.

The livestock industry plays a vital role in Oregon's economy, and it is imperative that regulatory programs serve producers effectively, not drain resources through mismanagement. I urge you to support this bill to ensure financial responsibility, industry transparency, and a brand inspection system that truly benefits Oregon's cattle producers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Morgan Kromm