

Submitter: Grayson Murray  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB80

Hello,

I am writing in support of SB 80 because I am an Oregon resident and student and am very concerned about the potential effects of water quality should this bill not pass. I am from the Carolinas, where nitrate pollution from factory farming has seriously affected many of our communities. I moved to Oregon for many reasons, one of which being the pristine natural resources here. It would be very disappointing for Oregon to show a lack of care for its residents the way North Carolina has done in this respect. Nitrate pollution is a serious problem for water supply and factory farms heavily contribute to this issue. Oregon NEEDS mandatory reductions in pollution and to prevent new sources of pollution, including factory farms, from being built in GWMA's in the first place.

Though the EPA has been downsized so that it cannot carry out its obligations to protect people and the environment, I still have faith that the state of Oregon can do so. We can no longer rely on intervention from the federal EPA to address this crisis, so our state elected officials need to do more to prevent pollution from contaminating our drinking water. Additionally, there are other options for Oregon. Large CAFOs rely on unsustainable agricultural practices which produce massive amounts of manure, along with significant methane, ammonia, and nitrous oxide emissions. Shifting to regenerative, sustainable practices would create a resilient food system that prioritizes the health of our environment and our communities. Even smaller farms would be more beneficial for the local communities and animals alike. Unlike industrial practices used by large CAFOs, small and mid-sized farms prioritize higher welfare standards, such as access to pasture and the space to carry out natural behaviors. They are also more protective of farmworkers. After the death of a farm worker in Oregon only recently due to a lack of care from his employer, it is important to me that state legislators show that they are committed to the welfare of all Oregonians.

I urge you to vote for SB 80 to protect our precious water resources!

Sincerely,

Name

Grayson Murray