

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

Dear Chair Golden, and Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Kezia Rasmussen and I live in Milwaukie, Oregon.

I am writing to you today in support of SB 80. We must take action to halt the expansion of factory farming, defined by the Oregon Department of Agriculture as large CAFOs, in our state's groundwater management areas until contamination is brought down to safe levels.

Among the environmental and community concerns, I am writing to express interest in preventing the expansion of factory farming in Oregon. Any additional factory farming will dramatically increase the suffering of animals subject to factory farming and I urge you to take a stand in showing the rest of the country that we value respecting the lives of animals here in Oregon. Oregon has progressive, humane values. Yet farmed animals, especially in industrial-scale settings, still suffer immensely as they spend their lives in overcrowded and unsanitary confinement. 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. Chickens are confined along with their ammonia-filled litter, which leads to ulcerated feet, feather loss, blisters, tumors, osteoporosis, and more. I am a proud Oregonian and I want to continue to take pride in my state—one that respects its own natural beauty, farming communities, and the animals we collectively are responsible for.

I urge you to vote for SB 80 to protect our precious water resources and all those who are impacted by industrial agriculture!

Sincerely,  
Kezia Rasmussen