

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

Date

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee

From: Shelly Paredes

Re: Support for SB 80- to stop new or expanding large CAFOs in GWMA's

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

My name is Shelly Paredes, and I live in Beaverton.

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.

I grew up just 12 miles from a large CAFO feed lot and can tell you that not only was treatment of the animals and the workers inhumane, the stench and dust travelled for miles in the air and water.

CAFOs generate inordinate amounts of nitrate waste which is poorly managed with the best attempts to prevent ground water and air pollution. As evidenced by Gov. Kotek's recent permission to violate wastewater pollution limits in GWMA's, regulation itself is an inadequate protection for humans, wildlife and environment, leading to health concerns and disease in our most vulnerable citizens.

Oregon does not need more animal agriculture operations such as mega dairies that can't afford to properly manage their waste when profitable and leave the tax payers with the cleanup and mitigation costs when they go out of business. It is clear from existing CAFO performance that violations will continue to occur and expand if these operations are allowed to develop.

We want to support our small and local farms, which are undermined by these large,

corporate competitors.

Oregon must halt the development of new CAFOs and stop existing polluters from expanding.

Regards,
Shelly Paredes