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## OREGONIANS FOR FOOD & SHELTER

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A non-profit coalition to promote the efficient production of quality food and fiber while protecting human health, personal property and the environment, through the integrated, responsible use of pest management products, soil nutrients and biotechnology.

April 3, 2025

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

*Re: Opposition to HB 80*

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns with SB 80. OFS represents a diverse coalition with members from various industries of Oregon's natural resource sector, including the animal agriculture industry. OFS and our members and partners are engaged in multiple ongoing discussions and rulemakings related to groundwater protection issues. On behalf of our broader membership and the operations that make up Oregon's natural resource sector, I urge you to oppose SB 80.

Oregon's animal agriculture sector is struggling to adapt to multiple new regulations imposed by this legislature, which include SB 85 passed in 2023 requiring CAFOs to obtain water permits and track wastewater. New limits on access to water imposed through SB 85 have effectively created a moratorium on new large CAFO operations. The bill also addressed permitting within groundwater management areas, where CAFOs already have stricter regulations, including monitoring systems to ensure manure is not entering groundwater.

Additionally, the state is investing significant capacity and resources across multiple agencies into addressing the longstanding nitrate contamination issues in areas of the Lower Umatilla Basin groundwater management area.

Finally, a groundwater management area designation is more than just a location on a map, it initiates a statewide, multi-agency process, which is also evolving, designed to bring additional monitoring, data collection, state resources, and solutions to areas of concern. Regulations already exist, with more being considered, that are specific to agricultural operations within the state's groundwater management areas.

SB 80 proposes to prohibit operations that are already under immense scrutiny and operate within a system of complex regulations, which have been updated as recently as last year. Lacking evidence of harm despite extensive data collection and reporting requirements for CAFOs of all sizes, this bill arbitrarily and unnecessarily targets one industry while ignoring significant recent legislation and the robust regulatory framework that is designed to ensure that CAFOs do not negatively impact groundwater quality. Please vote no on this bill.

Respectfully,

**Katie Murray**  
Executive Director