



April 6th, 2015

Oregon State Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson
900 Court St. NE, S-413,
Salem, OR 97301

Chairwoman Monnes Anderson and members of the Senate Health Committee,

My name is Tylor Braden, Operations Manager for Beef Northwest, the largest cattle operation in Oregon. I would like to begin by noting that I am married and have two young children who I care for as much as any parent, and their safety and wellbeing is my highest priority. Every day I confidently feed them the product which I produce, and with sound mind, raise them in the environment in which we operate and influence. If I ever thought there was any chance I was endangering them or anyone else's family I would immediately alter our production practices. I am absolutely certain BNW shares my commitment, as do each of you.

The commitment to food safety and the wellbeing of our community and environment is why the beef industry is adopting, and BNW uses, a documented system to prove process-verification. We deliberately structure the management of our operations in such a manner as to mitigate the need for metaphylactic use of antibiotics.

However, we also have a commitment to the wellbeing of each and every animal in our care. When an animal's health risk dictates we employ antibacterial treatments with the animal's best interest intended in accordance with proper animal welfare and husbandry practices. All antibiotics are prescribed or administered under the directive and supervision of an Oregon licensed veterinarian/Ph.D. nutritionist. Every antibiotic used in veterinary medicine has been stringently reviewed, approved, and regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) pursuant to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA), the same statute governing the approval and regulation of drugs used by the health care professionals in human medicine whom we trust to judiciously care for the wellbeing of our beloved family and friends.

The FDA, in collaboration with the CDC and the USDA, established the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) in an effort to prospectively monitor the occurrence of antimicrobial resistance of zoonotic pathogens from human diagnostic specimens, retail meats and food animals. The most current NARMS report shows a decrease in drug resistance, for each of the four primary proteins, compared to the previous 15 years.

This is scientific validation that the actions of the animal production industry are commensurate with my commitment to the wellbeing of our communities, our environment, and our animals, while simultaneously continuing to meet the food demands of an exponentially growing population. Thus,



rendering additional legislation, regulation, or governance repetitious and superfluous. Therefore, I urge you to reject SB 920, it will only encourage more bureaucracy and litigation, but it will not provide one ounce of additional protection for the animals I carefully raise, nor the family members you and I cherish.

Sincerely,

C. Tylor Braden
Operation's Manager
Beef Northwest