



Oregon Dairy Farmers Association
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SB 1507A TESTIMONY

HOUSE REVENUE COMMITTEE
REPRESENTATIVE PHIL BARNHART, CHAIR

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Presented by
Tammy Dennee, CMP, CAE – Legislative Director
Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

Chair Barnhart and members of the Committee, my name is Tammy Dennee . I am the Legislative Director for the Oregon Dairy Farmers Association headquartered here in Salem. The Association represents the 240 Grade A Dairy Farms in Oregon. These multi generational farms produced fluid milk valued at more than \$650 million dollars in 2014. Recently, two young ladies were crowned the Dairy Princess Ambassador and First Alternate for 2016. Both young ladies are 5th generation dairy producers on their respective farms.

I provide this testimony in support of SB 1507A. The Dairy industry actively participated in the Dairy Air Quality Task Force when it was active. Out of the Dairy Air Task Force was a recommended Best Practice to develop anaerobic digesters for dairies. **SB 1507A will continue to encourage investment in this area for dairy operations through a reduced tax credit until the sunset date of 2022.**

The Oregon Dairy Farmers Association supports the testimony offered by Mr. Marty Myers in the Senate Finance Committee which clearly articulated the environmental benefits including the

reduction of greenhouse gases, improving air quality, reduction of odors and maintaining Oregon's clean water. With the increased issues concerning coexistence in agriculture, the minimization of odor, will be a tremendous benefit not only to the dairies, but also to their neighbors.

ODFA has knowledge of seven of our members (three in Tillamook, three here in the Willamette Valley and one in Boardman) who have sited anaerobic digesters on their farms. The technology surrounding anaerobic digesters continues to improve as the basis of knowledge expands. All of this accrues to a better product with improved economic and environmental benefits.

Oregon's Dairy industry is worth protecting and preserving and we encourage every tool be made available to ensure fluid milk production continues in Oregon for generations to come. Milk production requires the responsible management of all facets of the operation including manure and liquid waste.

The Oregon Dairy Farmers Association respectfully asks this committee to approve the Bill for passage. Thank you for your time and service.