

Watts Remy

From: Anna Smith <aks93@cornell.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 7:36 AM
To: SENR Exhibits
Subject: Please vote NO on SB 103 and 104

Dear Chair Dembrow,

As a lifelong Oregonian and small farmer, it saddens me greatly to see our hardworking dairy farmers under attack. For most dairy farms, growing larger is a matter of survival. A dairy of under 1,000 cows often struggles to support even one family member. If a daughter or son wishes to return to the farm, it often means expansion so that the needs of additional family members can be met. Further, large farms can better afford to pay their employees higher wages, offer housing, health care and retirement benefits. Most smaller farms simply cannot afford to do that. Large farms are also better equipped to improve their environmental stewardship, since they can afford to put better practices in place. And most do. For a small farm, investment in alternative energy, or adoption of erosion control practices is simply out of their reach - their smaller size means they can't afford the needed upgrades.

Nearly every large dairy in Oregon is family owned. And these once were small dairies, that through hard work and sustainable business and farming practices, have been able to grow to support their families and community.

Please, vote NO on SB 103 and 104 to protect our rural families and communities.

Sincerely,

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