

Senator Dembrow and Members of the Committee:

March 20, 2019

My name is Elizabeth Stultz. My husband Chad and I own Stultz Bros Farm & Feed in Scio, Oregon.

I am writing regarding SB 103. As a small feed store in a rural town, I rely on the small farm economy to support my family's business. I am deeply concerned with the consolidation in the agriculture industry and how this concentration of wealth in the hands of a few is going to impact small farms in my area and therefore, my business's bottom line. In addition to selling feed, my store is a hub for the local farmers to come and discuss with me what they are facing in their industries. I have heard from local dairy farmers that the farm crisis is impacting them deeply. Some of our local dairy farmers have lost their contracts and are furiously trying to figure out what they are going to do. Considering what has already occurred with our small dairies, I have grave concerns about the fact that our state is being targeted by massive mega dairies looking to set up shop here. What is this going to do to our small family dairies?

I commend the legislature for considering a moratorium on these operations until we can do an economic analysis on how these massive mega dairies impact our small dairy farms.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Stultz

Stultz Bros Farm & Feed Scio, Oregon