



**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1513  
SUBMITTED BY PAUL SNYDER,  
ON BEHALF OF TILLAMOOK COUNTY CREAMERY ASSOCIATION  
SENATE ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee,

Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) is a 111-year-old farmer-owned, farmer-led cooperative, which is known for the quality of the products we produce and for our commitment to working collaboratively with a diverse set of stakeholders to solve complex problems. For generations, our farmers have worked to conserve air, land, and water as their livelihoods depend on it. We're dedicated to continually improving agricultural practices, leveraging everything from scientific and technological breakthroughs to our farmers intergenerational knowledge about the land. Our commitment to sustained natural resources extends from our farms to our facilities and throughout our supply chain. We work hard to be good neighbors and stewards of the land.

In the recent past, our state has witnessed a shutdown of a dairy that was not acting as a good neighbor. There were signals that the dairy was not upholding its commitments to environmental integrity. Our state agencies, with assistance and the complete support of TCCA, took action to wind down and eventually close that operation. One dairy does not represent the entire industry and the last thing we want is for agriculture to be more burdened because of one bad actor.

Provisions contained in SB 1513 are the culmination of work done over the past year with the dairy industry, state agencies and other stakeholders to put in place a reasonable policy for citing new, large dairies in Oregon. We don't think the current Combined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permitting process is necessarily broken, but there is a recognition that state agencies permitting new, large dairies should have



the tools to ensure that both animal welfare and environmental stewardship requirements are met. We believe that the intent of SB 1513 finds that right balance by establishing a two-step CAFO permitting process and by giving the state a reasonable and thorough approval process.

We thank you, Senator Dembrow, for working with the TCCA and the dairy industry to find a balanced, reasonable CAFO policy moving forward. SB 1513 will need some small changes that reflect our consensus agreement. We ask that the committee adopt those amendments and pass the bill to the Senate floor. Thank you.