

Submitter: Amy Benson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

Chair Golden and members of the committee:

I am writing to you in support of SB 85-1. My husband and I have been farmers for over 20 years and know first hand the positive and negative effects neighboring farm operations can and do have on our own farm. What happens on one farm does not stop at the fence line. Groundwater, surface runoff, air quality and noise are only a few of the many things that we monitor and address when we can, or put up with when we have no recourse. One operation's farming practices should have the least amount of effect and harm on neighboring operations. We have a right to operate our farms without unchecked negative impacts to our water, air and soil from other farming operations no matter their size. Current laws and regulations have not kept up to date with the impacts these large agricultural operations. Currently there are no regulations of air emissions from large CAFOs. There also is no limit on the amount of groundwater that these operations can use, even when a facility is being proposed in a groundwater management area that is known to have a limited quantity of groundwater. It is reasonable to pause and take into consideration the full impact of adding new or expanding CAFOs in our state.

Please support SB-1