

To: Senate Resources Committee
From: Kristina Beggen
Re: Support for SB-85— Factory Farm Moratorium Bill

March 6th, 2023

Dear Chair Golden, and members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Kristina and I live in Eugene.

I am writing in support of a factory farm moratorium in Oregon. Factory farms pose a myriad of risks to our air, water, climate, communities and small farms.

Through the use of manure lagoons factory farms leach nitrates into groundwater, and emit air pollutants such as ammonia that impact neighboring communities. Factory farms fuel climate change by releasing harmful greenhouse gases such as methane and nitrous oxide. Factory farms are an environmental justice issue. Many of Oregon's largest dairy factory farms (mega-dairies) are in rural predominantly Latinx communities, and these communities disproportionately suffer the adverse effects of these factory farms. Factory farms cram thousands of animals into confinement, which is not only inhumane, but is a veritable petri dish for breeding antibiotic resistant pathogens.

I am no stranger to farming and sustainable agriculture. I worked directly with the soil growing crops and raising animals on small farms for 4 years in my twenties. I have a Bachelors and Masters in Environmental Studies and I'm currently pursuing a PhD in Environmental Studies at the University of Oregon. I am well educated on the environmental, social and ecological impacts of factory farms.

I have also seen firsthand how factory farms threaten communities. I moved to this beautiful state in 2017 from North Carolina, a state that is inundated with hog and poultry factory farms. We must not let Oregon become the next hub for factory farm expansion. I am in full support of this bill and I know thousands of other Oregonians stand with me.

I urge you to pass this landmark bill, SB-85, to protect our air, water, climate, communities and family farms.

Sincerely,

Kristina Beggen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Beggen', written in a cursive style.