

Dear Committee Members,

“[T]he moral progress of a nation and its greatness can be judged by how it treats its animals.”<sup>1</sup>

Both Oregon and Federal law allow explicit exemptions for animal cruelty on factory farms. At the federal level, no law expressly protects the treatment of animals on farms. The one statute that speaks to the issue of animal welfare generally, the Animal Welfare Act, expressly exempts farmed animals from protection<sup>2</sup>

At the state level, while Oregon has protections against animal cruelty, other than in cases of gross negligence, there are express exemptions for commercially grown poultry, the treatment of livestock in transportation, and animals subject to “good animal husbandry practices.” OR Rev. Stat. 167.335 (2021). “Good husbandry practices” include having tails docked, beaks cut off, horns burned out, and animals castrated, often with no pain relief.<sup>3</sup>

In industrial animal operations, chickens are crammed into buildings by the tens and even hundreds of thousands. Pigs are crammed in by the thousands. Given these conditions, it is simply impossible to ensure their welfare.

In CAFOs, pigs and chickens will never

*touch the grass* or

*see the sky.*

Think about that for just one moment.

There is absolutely nothing ethical about this. As a society, we can and should do better.

I urge you to pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Carrie Reed

For further information, see:

<https://awionline.org/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/22-Legal-Protections-Farm.pdf>

<https://awionline.org/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/FA-AWI-Animal-Health-Welfare-Report-04022018.pdf>

<https://awionline.org/content/high-welfare-alternatives>

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extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/docs/understanding\_cafos\_nalboh.pdf

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<sup>1</sup> Steven P. McCulloch, The Greatness Of A Nation Can Be Judged By How It Treats Its Animals, HUFFINGTON POST, Jan. 12, 2017 12:06 PM, [https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/the-greatness-of-a-nation-can-be-judged-by-how-it-treats-its-animals\\_uk\\_5a1d2bb6e4b07bcab2c699b3](https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/the-greatness-of-a-nation-can-be-judged-by-how-it-treats-its-animals_uk_5a1d2bb6e4b07bcab2c699b3).

<sup>2</sup> Legal Protections for Animals on Farms, ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE, <https://awionline.org/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/22-Legal-Protections-Farm.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> See *The Current State of Animal Farming in the US*, ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE (2022) <https://awionline.org/awi-quarterly/summer-2022/current-state-animal-farming-us>.