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On Behalf Of:

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Factory farms are exploitative by nature. Hidden away from sight, and with the rapacious drive to trim any and all kinds of overheads, they exploit the animals, they exploit the labor employed and they exploit the local environment. For this reason, they have no place in the modern progressive society and should not be allowed to operate.

Providing animals with comfort and space is going to cost their keepers money, which factory farms already decide is an unnecessary overhead, as they seek to concentrate all animal operations into the smallest possible space, with the bare minimum of necessities needed to keep the animal alive just until ready for slaughter. This should be unacceptable and animals should be allowed to live their natural lives as much as possible.

Labor in factory farms are cheap and easily replaceable by design. Hiring mostly uneducated or undocumented workers who can't speak up for their rights, they seek to get the most work for lowest pay. As the employees have no ties to the local communities, it is easy for the factory farms to exploit them, with no consequences. This should also be unacceptable, and employees should be treated and paid fairly.

Factory farms are known to pollute local air, water and land. There have been so many instances of factory farms breaking their permit conditions and either paying fine or going bankrupt -- neither of which is going to help the local community which suffers from the results of the pollution. This should be unacceptable and Oregon's precious natural resources should not be exploited for the profit of a few.

The people of Oregon already strongly favor local products. It's time we also favor our small farmers.

I strongly support the bill to enforce a moratorium on factory farms.