

Submitter: Steve Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

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

Steve in Portland here, writing to you in strong support of a factory farm moratorium in Oregon. I realize that factory farms play an important role in both the economy and our food supply (especially in getting crucial protein to the economically disadvantaged), but I cannot believe that we can't do this better. The environmental, societal, and animal-welfare costs of these facilities are well-documented, and this status quo is surely not something we want to perpetuate. Let's pause the expansion of these facilities until we have officially assessed their impacts and (more importantly) determined how they can evolve in a better direction for both their animals and their workers.

If you'll forgive me a quick quotation:

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way in which its animals are treated." - M.K. Gandhi

I thank the Committee for their time and their kind attention.

- Steve in Portland