

Submitter: Cate Casad

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

On behalf of Casad Family Farms in Madras, Oregon

Dear Chair Golden and members of the senate natural resources committee,

I wrote in support of SB 85 and I urge you to please support it.

We are a mid size family farm managing 360 acres of land in Jefferson County. We raise hogs at scale, cattle, chickens, we raise grains hays vegetables Organically. We raise all the feed our animals consume and we understand the economy of scale needed to profit. Because of drought and the 100 year old water allocation system which is ruining ag in Oregon, we have lost 80% of our irrigation water in 5 years. Read that again. Imagine if a business lost 80% of its operating capital. Our scaling up of our pastured animal program is a direct response to losing irrigation water making growing certain veg crops impossible. With that said, the Tier 2 category of factory farms are fundamentally UNSUSTAINABLE for Oregon. With water resources over tapped already, with the level of pollution we see in our tributaries already, with the level of competition Small and mid size sustainable farms face already... we do NOT need nor can we support more Tier 2 factory farms. There is a generation of young farmers eager to scale and feed our state, for them to have a chance, for our soils and our water resources to be protected for all in the future, please support HB 85 and place a moratorium on any more Tier 2 factory farms.

Thank you from the farmers working so hard to regenerate soils, protect our water resources and feed our communities.

Cate & Chris Casad
Casad Family Farms
Madras, OR