

Submitter: Susan Bunch
On Behalf Of: Oregon CattleWomen
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources
Measure: SB85

SB 85-1, Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO)

We are opposed to SB 85-1

This bill will create a bottle neck in the food chain for the state of Oregon. Many ranching operations depend on livestock feeders to purchase their animals. The feeders finish these animals and then market them to packers who provide wholesome, Oregon grown meat to consumers. This bill will result in the elimination of many existing CAFO's in Oregon as they will not be able to renew their permits. Elimination of Oregon CAFO's will result in livestock produced in Oregon being shipped out of state. Added shipping costs will adversely impact both livestock producers and consumers.

These feeding operations are already regulated by the Department of Agriculture for the state of Oregon. Regulations are in place to monitor air quality, climate, water quality, water supplies, animal welfare as well as community and worker health.

This bill will unnecessarily place additional financial burdens on livestock producers and consumers. In addition, livestock feeders and producers may be forced to move their businesses to other states in an effort to continue operations.