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From: Barney Ward DE (Dairy & Agricultural Consultant)

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Re: Bill 85

Passage of this bill is an admission that our current agency regulations are not working due to poor project planning approval or enforcement. In my over 40 years of experience in the industry this is not the case in Oregon having been involved in the planning and construction in Oregon and around the world.

In Oregon as well as most states, months and even years are spent on the planning and permitting process whereas rapidly developing nations have little or no permitting or regulation.

Increased unnecessary regulation discourages farm development, very evident in the already large loss of dairies, layer facilities, and hogs in our state.

Regulations already in place for all existing and new facilities are based on the number of animals and ability to protect our environment. Bill 85 simply stymies' the ability to produce food, for large and ultimately smaller farms. Regulations in place continue to evolve with the involvement of regulators and farmers working together with common sense enforcement regardless of size.

Oregon has been and continues to be far ahead of protecting our environment by farmers and existing regulations. Attention needs to given to air pollution, lack of control over potential devastating viruses (FMD), and imported product with unknown components we breathe and purchase from other countries.

Oregon produces known quality food we all need to protect, supporting our farms, and continuing to work with farmers not discourage and force them out of the business. Farming is difficult already with long hard hours, volatile attainable profits, little or no time off, and labor shortages.

Regulations are necessary for all sizes of farms to protect our environment, additional regulations with no basis, is forcing out the small farms as scale is required to meet regulations. Ponder for a moment WHY? most of what we buy today is "Made in China", one of the worst polluters of our planet, now impacting our local health as well? Little or no regulations, companies fled to China, farmers will just simply quit, and then where will your next pizza, bowl of ice cream, even breakfast come from?

We are playing with what we do best, feed the world! Make no mistake, we are the food basket of the world for a lot of reasons other countries want and need. Encouraging your focus on the big picture, and vote this bill and like bills down for all our futures.

Barney Ward