

Submitter: Beau Caceu

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

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

My name is Beau Caceu, and I live in Salem, Oregon and farm olives in rural Polk County, near Dallas, Oregon.

I am writing to you today in support of a factory farm moratorium in Oregon. We must take action to halt the expansion of factory farming in our state.

My concerns about factory farming are as follows:

1. Factory farming destroys competition. While I deeply care about the environment, I am a capitalist first and foremost. We need competition.
2. Factory farming tends to have a negative impact on resources: as you well know, water resources are becoming scarce, even here in Oregon. We cannot afford to allow factory farms to hog such precious resources.
3. A vast majority of consumers in Oregon prefer buying food from smaller, truly local producers. We, for example, have a tremendous demand for our extra virgin olive oil, because consumers want an olive oil that is 100% Oregon and they know that it is crafted in an artisanal way from olives grown on small-acreage farms. That is what they appreciate and we hear that with each interaction with consumers around the state.
4. On export markets in Asia, such as in Japan or South Korea, what we hear is the same: they want Oregon blueberries or Oregon olive oil because it comes from small farms, produced in small batches, with careful attention to quality.
5. Leave industrial-scale food production to California or the Great Plains states! Don't give in to these gigantic facilities that are owned by out of state investors. Do not compromise and endanger the amazing Oregon agriculture sector we have.

I urge you to vote for SB 85 in the 2023 Legislative Session to protect Oregon's small and midsized family farms.

Sincerely,

Bogdan "Beau" Caceu  
La Creole Orchards  
Dallas, Oregon