

Submitter: Maggie Malson  
On Behalf Of: Oregon beef producers and consumers  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources  
Measure: SB85

As a cattle producer in close proximity to Oregon, I am opposed to this bill. It will adversely affect Oregon agriculture, Oregon's economy, and subsequently put unnecessary burdens on agriculture in the entire Pacific NW region.

The current permitting program is working...Oregon is not home to "factory farms" or "industrial ag." Oregon agriculture is made of farming and ranching families, most located in the vast, open space of the western part of the state where agriculture is the biggest and most important industry.

Oregon farms, ranches, dairies, feedlots, and everyone raising livestock are part of a broad community that depend on one another. They are the backbone of the local food supply and for exporting out of state.

Beef is one of Oregon's top agricultural commodities. Oregon's producers and feedlots comply with state laws, are stewards of the land, rivers, and environment.

This is an unfair and unnecessary burden on our industry.

Our rural communities rely on our entire ag community - farms, ranches, dairies, and feedlots provide jobs, income, and revenue that gets spent in the communities (and paid to the state and counties in taxes!).

For these reasons, I cannot support SB 85. It will further burden the industry that produces an important FOOD source for the state, region, country and world.