

My name is Dana Wirth and I would like to submit testimony to oppose Bill SB 85-1. This bill, not only is a detriment to sustainable agriculture in our great state but it is also a cruelty to our underserved communities. SB 85, hampers the already dwindling resources of our small farms and ranches that proudly and humanely raise animals for our local and worldwide communities. While it may seem that we do the world good by reducing the animal agriculture in our own backyards the cold reality is that the world must be fed. That animal agriculture will be forced elsewhere with possibly less humane standards and increasing the environmental footprint of all our food production. It is a privilege to say “I do not want to see it from my house” and disregard the valuable and necessary work that farmers and ranchers do on a regular basis. Animal agriculture is uncomfortable, it involves death, but that death provides life. In this instance local food availability is a lifeline to our impoverished and marginalized communities. By reducing the capacity of farmers and ranchers to operate, you starve those communities. Shame on you, for your comfort they will lose food access. Our Governor is trying her best to assist those communities and raise them up so that we can be a better, brighter Oregon. This bill flies in the face of those efforts. Our future lies in helping those in need and it starts with feeding them. For the future of our State, our farmers and ranchers, and for the uplifting of our communities, I oppose bill SB 85-1. Thank you for your time and consideration.