

Submitter: Tana Cahill

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

In support of SB 85, the factory farm moratorium bill:

I am a resident of Portland, and even though I'm not a farmer, I am passionate about this issue because I care about family farms, access to local high-quality food, sustainable agriculture, animal welfare, and the environment. Huge factory farms are a disaster for every being involved (except the few who profit from them) -- from the animals, workers, and consumers, to the neighbors and future generations who will be left to clean up the ecological mess left behind. If we care at all about Oregon, we must halt the expansion of factory farming and protect animal welfare, our environment, family farms, and frontline communities.

We should be promoting smaller scale, ORGANIC and SUSTAINABLE agriculture, which actually improves the environment and strengthens communities, instead of these inhumane operations which increase suffering, take more than their share of resources (most notably water), and leave our land, air and water, and our people, worse off.

Our food supply and ag economy are both far more resilient and stable when based on many small independent farms, than when a few mega-operations dominate. It's especially galling since the factory farms usually aren't even locally owned, and the profiteers couldn't care less about our local economy, land, workers, or communities. Why allow them to exploit our resources like that, and give nothing back, when we have such amazing local stewards of the land, who are only being pushed out and harmed by such facilities?

I urge you to vote for SB 85 in the 2023 Legislative Session to protect our small and midsized socially and ecologically responsible family farms in Oregon.

Sincerely,
Tana Cahill