

Submitter: Scott Shurtleff

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

Confined animal feed operations (aka CAFOs), including mega-dairies, large chicken operations and confined livestock, have no place in Oregon's future. Let me count the ways.

1. CAFOs use large quantities of water, while also contributing to groundwater pollution. Having a sufficient potable water supply for the long-term is a major concern in ALL regions of Oregon. CAFOs will accelerate and exacerbate the water crisis across Oregon, to the detriment of our communities and public health.
2. CAFOs harm small- and medium-scale family farms by consuming excessive quantities of water, monopolizing farm-adjacent operations such as packaging, and polluting the surrounding area.
3. They reduce local property values by degrading livability in the community. They smell bad, they pollute the water, they degrade the land and they create traffic congestion.
4. They are low-quality employers, seeking to pay the lowest possible wage with minimal worker safety, in order to maximize corporate profit. Our family farmers are far better employers for their communities.
5. CAFOs are counter to Oregon's climate action goals due to their high greenhouse gas emissions, resource demands and transportation demands.

Please advance SB 85 as a vote that favors small- and medium-scale family farms over corporate interests. Our family farms have the interests of Oregon's working families and natural resources at their hearts; CAFOs do not.

Scott Shurtleff, a big fan of family farms & CSAs
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