

Submitter: Philip Swaim

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

I am writing to express my support for SB 85 with the proposed -1 amendment. If this bill does not pass, the state will be giving up its last chance to regulate factory farms. Regulations protecting "right to farm" will take precedence in the future.

Another concern is the apparent inability of DEQ to address pollution issues. In The Dalles, there were serious health issues caused by creosote emissions from the AmeriTies facility. AmeriTies is a wood preserving and railroad tie production company. A cancer causing ingredient of creosote, naphthalene, was released into the air and caused numerous health issues for nearby residents.

After futile attempts to get DEQ to resolve the problem, residents sold their homes and moved away. In contrast, when Bullseye Glass in Portland created air pollution problems, these were dealt with in a timely fashion. Apparently this quick response was because this was located in a high population area, not a small town or rural area.

In regards to water rights, water is getting scarcer and will continue to do so due to climate change. The neighboring farms and residents will suffer the consequences if mega factory farms move into the area.

Please support SB 85 with the proposed -1 amendment.

Thank you,

Philip Swaim