

Submitter: Edith Koenig  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources  
Measure: SB85

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee  
From: Edith Koenig  
Re: Support for SB85-1, the factory farm moratorium bill

Dear Chair Golden and Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Edith Koenig, and I live in Albany. I support a strong factory farm moratorium in Oregon. I support the -1 amendment to SB 85 and oppose the -3 amendment.

The thought of hundreds of thousands of chickens and thousands of dairy cattle crowded together in a single facility sickens me. This is completely inhumane. I have lived with a neighbor renting my property for a small cattle operation in Eastern Oregon, so I know that cattle are living creatures with their own set of needs, pleasures and fears.

I also believe that food produced in such operations is not healthy.

Aside from humanitarian considerations, the thought of all that animal effluent running into the groundwater of local communities gives me pause. Dairy farms should not be exempted. Nitrates they produce contaminate groundwater and air-borne pollutants threaten the health of workers and local residents.

This state needs not merely to study the issue, but to halt all spread of all mega-animal feeding operations until a full study of the harmful health and environmental effects of these animal factories has taken place. We need time for a full public disclosure and public discussion of this issue.

Please support SB 85-1.

Sincerely,  
Edith Koenig  
Volunteer with Food & Water Watch