

Submitter: Niccola Gentile
On Behalf Of: The only planet we have
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources
Measure: SB85

Good morning Chair, Vice Chairs, and Members of the committee.
My name is Niccola Gentile, a born and raised Oregonian and United States Marine Corps Veteran.

I'm here today to support a strong factory farm moratorium, not a bill with a truck wide gap in the middle of the point it is trying to make. I support the -1 amendment to SB 85 and oppose the -3 amendment.

Poultry CAFOS are not the only harmful factory farms to animals and our environment! Two years is barely enough time to get a well rounded assessment of how these CAFOS operate and any science based research can back that up. This is an ALL animal and ALL environmental issue, not just a poultry one. We need the original strong moratorium bill that would halt the spread of mega-dairies in eastern Oregon which are already struggling with heavily contaminated drinking water and other pollution on top of animal suffering on a massive scale!

CAFOs are the site of countless acts of animal cruelty, a breeding ground for viruses and drug-resistant bacteria, and are one of the biggest sources of air and pollution as well.

In the news recently was the right to rescue case in California. The Foster Farms chickens Jax and Ethan, who were rescued from a truck heading to slaughter (for food consumption), both had a form of corona virus that was extremely contagious to all birds around them. That virus was coupled with TWO bacterial infects that have been known to kill humans: e coli and enterococcus faecium. This isn't a specific incident inside poultry farms alone or California alone. This scenario is happening, has happened, and will continue to happen with ALL forms of livestock animals. We are ALL being neglectful if we do NOT include all types of factory farms in this bill. We owe it to the environment, our fellow humans, the animals, and to the future generations who have to live on this planet long after us.

A study found that since 2006, more methane emissions have spewed from agriculture, mostly large cattle, worldwide than from fracking for gas and oil production. What is even more shocking is that agriculture accounts for about a third of all greenhouse gas emissions globally and about 10 percent of U.S. emissions. Terrifyingly though, BIG AG is using every lobbying attack it has to keep itself from becoming regulated. In 2015 Congress renewed a provision attached to the federal budget that strictly forbids the EPA from tracking emissions from livestock operations. It is the only industry to enjoy such an exemption. This all needs end for the animals,

for our planet, and for the children of the future to have a planet in which they can live.

I lastly ask you, please take a second to look at ALL testimony that opposes SB85 in its entirety. There isn't going to be a single piece of testimony that doesn't place the individuals needs above the rest of all Oregonians. It will come down to money. They don't want to lose their income. Which is fair. However; with the climate in which we live here in the beautiful state of Oregon allows multiple different uses for the land. These horror houses could easily be transitioned to other agricultural needs to help feed even more Oregonians and even the rest of the United States. Factory farms and larger farms are not for the betterment of the planet, the animals, or humans, they are about money in the pockets of the individual farmers (and investors) who run them. That is not a reason to continue to inflict pain, suffering, and environmental devastation.

If you pass the original 8 year moratorium you will see that we should never allow these farms of atrocities to be built in our beautiful state.