

Submitter: Susan Hanson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB85

1. A poultry CAFO can house 100,000 chickens, crowded so tightly into barns that huge fans must blow out ammonia-laden air so the birds can breathe. And then workers breathe and others breathe that air. The chickens can't move and suffer greatly.

2. In the U.S., farmed animals produce between 3 and 20 times as much raw waste as people. A single CAFO can produce 1.6 million tons of animal manure each year, which will typically be stored in an open-air container called a cesspool or waste lagoon. In contrast animals on pasture land enrich the soil.

3. About 70% of the antibiotics in the U.S. are given to animals to help them ward off diseases and to help them grow bigger. Even so, the Consumers Union reported that over 70% of chickens in the supermarket harbored campylobacter and/or salmonella bacteria. The antibiotic strains that grow in these conditions are a significant threat to humans.

Please let the small family farmers produce the chickens and eggs. We need this 8 year moratorium to study how bad CAFOs are for our planet, our health and the animals.