

Submitter: Adam Maubach
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB80

To the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire,

As an Oregon resident with a concern for public health and environment, I strongly urge you to pass S.B.80 to protect Oregon's groundwater and communities from the harmful effects of factory farms. For over 30 years, Oregon has failed to take meaningful action to address pollution in its three designated Groundwater Management Areas (GWMAs), particularly the Lower Umatilla Basin. Large Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) are a major contributor to this crisis.

Factory farms generate excessive amounts of untreated manure, which seeps into groundwater and contaminates drinking water with dangerous nitrates. This pollution has well-documented health risks, including increased rates of cancer, thyroid disease, and blue baby syndrome. Additionally, factory farms release airborne particulates linked to respiratory diseases like asthma and bronchitis, contributing to thousands of premature deaths nationwide each year.

Beyond these public health concerns, industrial-scale animal agriculture inflicts immense suffering on farmed animals, confining them in overcrowded, unsanitary conditions for their entire lives—conditions that are completely at odds with Oregon's progressive, humane values.

Oregon has a chance to take a stand against pollution, corporate irresponsibility, and animal cruelty. Passing S.B.80 is a crucial step toward ensuring cleaner water, healthier communities, and a more ethical future for our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Adam Maubach
Corvallis, OR