

Chairmen Beltz and Members of the House Agriculture Committee,

My name is Mary Sahl and I am a resident of Abercrombie Township in North Dakota. I am writing a testimony in opposition to bill 2174. The provisions to the bill have changed the setbacks that will not protect residents in rural settings. The former setbacks that were in the original bill should be reestablished. These setbacks are at least measurable and can be quantified. If the odor footprint tool is accepted, the floor to the percentage of acceptable days without odor should be 94% and the ceiling should be 98%.

As an oncology nurse health hazards via aerosol exposure are a great concern as we live only a mile away from the proposed site of a mega dairy. In conjunction, contamination of the water has always been my biggest concern as numerous reports indicate nitrate levels rise to unacceptable levels around CAFO sights over a short period of time. These unacceptable levels cause cancer and cannot be boiled out of the water. Reverse Osmosis is needed. I've experienced many epidemics and serious health events myself both professionally and personally. I have put my life on the line for citizens of North Dakota during the Aids epidemic and the Covid epidemic. I have done my part to be a responsible citizen of this state and now my rights as a citizen are being taken away.

Being so close to the site will rob me and my family of any future enjoyment outside on our lawn or perhaps even in our home. The traffic from the trucks hauling food to the site and trucks hauling manure away will leave a constant stream of disturbing traffic and odor.

Please consider your rural residents who are supposed to be protected under the century code to have rights as tax paying citizens of North Dakota. I have done my part as a North Dakota citizen. Now it is your turn to do yours. Your Vote Matters!