



#### Our Mission

We're working to rapidly reduce climate pollution at scale, starting in California.

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#### Contact

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March 22, 2023

The Honorable Senator Allen,  
Chair, Environmental Quality Committee  
1021 O Street, Room 3230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **RE: SB 485 (Becker) – Climate Opportunities for California Cattle – SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Senator Allen and Vice Chair Dahle,

The Climate Center supports SB 485 (Becker, 2022) to require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to create an incentive program for early adopters that adopt feed additives to reduce enteric methane emissions from ruminant livestock, once commercially available, and to set a target for the adoption of feed additives through voluntary incentives once they meet certain criteria. Creating this additional incentive program would help California more quickly achieve its methane emission reduction targets in the agricultural sector and encourage the creation and research in a nascent climate technology.

The Climate Center is a California nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2001 with a mission to deliver rapid greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions at scale, starting in California. Our strategic goal is to enact the bold policies required by science to put California on the path to net-negative emissions by 2030, catalyzing the nation and the world into accelerated climate action.

Methane emissions from enteric fermentation — emissions created in the stomachs of livestock which result from digestive gas — compose 30% of all methane emissions from the livestock industry in California. Existing law attempts to reduce methane from manure emissions. SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) requires CARB to reduce methane emissions from livestock manure by 40% below 2013 levels by 2030, but not enteric fermentation. CARB's 2022 report on the *Analysis of Progress toward Achieving the 2030 Dairy and Livestock Sector Methane Emissions* found that, despite great progress, the livestock industry "may fall short of the 2030 target absent an enteric strategy and sufficient public funding," unless the industry achieves "considerable emissions reductions from additional manure management projects, proven enteric mitigation strategies, or a combination of both over the next few years."

SB 485 incentivizes the early adoption of feed additives among farmers with ruminant livestock and creates a long-term strategy for encouraging investment,

research, and further development of feed additives to ensure they're safe, economically viable, and sustain their methane reductions.

1. SB 485 requires CARB, in partnership with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), to create an offset program to subsidize the potential cost difference for farmers who are early adopters of feed additives, once proven commercially viable.
2. Once demonstrated to be safe, economically viable, and scientifically proven, this bill requires CARB to set a target for the adoption of feed additives through voluntary incentives.
3. Finally, this bill places this program and other climate livestock programs under the jurisdiction of CDFA's Scientific Advisory Committee for better input on new science on livestock emissions.

SB 485 is needed to encourage an early market and signal to investors that California farmers are ready to participate in climate solutions and avoid long-term industry leakage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellie Cohen', with a long, sweeping underline.

Ellie Cohen, Chief Executive Officer  
The Climate Center