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February 15, 2009

**Oklahoma Sierra Club Asks YOUR Support in Preserving
Local Governmental Authority to Regulate Agricultural Operations
*PLEASE VOTE NO on HB 2150 and S 452***

HB 2151 and S 452 are Solutions for a Problem that Does Not Exist in Oklahoma!

HB 2151 and S 452 would prohibit Oklahoma cities and counties from setting standards dealing with agriculture, livestock, food safety or environmental protection. This two paragraph legislation shifts *all authority* to the state Legislature, which would become solely responsible for "the regulation and enforcement of the care and handling of livestock." This legislation attempts to make local standards void and unenforceable.

Rep. Don Armes' media release dated 02/11/2009 mentions a ballot question regulation passed in California and fears that "radical fringe groups will impose excessive regulations through local ordinances." This problem does not exist in Oklahoma!

Many Oklahomans question why members of the State Legislature want to remove the authority of local governing bodies to determine what is best for their communities. How does preventing county commissioners, city councils and city managers from doing their jobs, prevent radical fringe groups from wreaking havoc? When did radicals start working in "political subdivisions" of governments from Mangum to Miami? Furthermore, if this bill nullifies local regulatory authority, who will investigate and enforce complaints of livestock neglect or pollution currently subject to municipal and county jurisdiction?

HB 2151 and S 452 are an assault on local governmental regulatory authority and should be defeated because the legislation...

- Prohibits local investigation of unsafe animal agricultural practices, public health threats, or water and air pollution.
- Prevents Oklahomans from making decisions at the most fundamental level of the democratic process.
- Imposes a solution to a problem that does not exist in Oklahoma.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB 2151 AND S 452!

Protect Oklahoma's Environment . . . For Our Families, For Our Future