

February 1, 2012

The Honorable Jackie Dingfelder
Chairs Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 Court St. NE, H-484
Salem, OR 97301

MEASURE: SB 1510
EXHIBIT: 12
2012 SESSION S ENV. & NAT. RESOURCES
DATE: 2-2-12 PAGES: 1
SUBMITTED BY: Laura Schmidt

Dear Chair Dingfelder and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Laura Schmidt, and I am in support of SB 1510.

SB 1510 honors the work of the Marine Reserve Community Teams. Designating marine reserve and marine protected area sites at Cape Falcon, Cascade Head, and Cape Perpetua is appropriate after over 25,000 volunteer hours were spent evaluating the ecological, social, and economic uses of some of Oregon's most ecological important and beautiful areas.

I am a third-generation Oregonian and proud to be from a state that protects and values our precious natural resources and diverse ecosystems. My family has served our state and prospered through the last hundred years by means of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, veterinary medicine, engineering, and teaching. I have a deep and sustained environmental ethic that is a result of my parents and grandparents teaching me that we must use our land, air, and water wisely, to provide health and opportunity for future generations. For this and many other reasons, I believe that the passage of SB 1510 will lead to sustainable livelihoods and resilient marine ecosystems within our Territorial Sea.

Two main elements of this bill lend to Oregon's long history of ocean stewardship: 1) the legislation specifies that the boundaries and allowances within the sites are respected, consistent with the OPAC process, which was an exercise in public vetting and collaborative effort; and 2) the bill also calls for local resources and expertise be used, providing an opportunity for long-term stewardship of coastal communities.

I am particularly enlivened by this second point in regards to Oregon public university and coastal community involvement for scientific research and the collection of baseline data. One of my grandfathers, both of my parents and I all graduated from Oregon State University. To ensure that more OSU research will be committed to these marine reserves and marine protected areas is a wise decision for our state's economy, coastal communities, students, and the public at large.

Our Territorial Sea is managed in the public trust, so we all share responsibility to manage it wisely to ensure our children and grandchildren will be able to safely swim, surf, kayak, study, fish, and enjoy fresh seafood from its bounty.

We all benefit from a productive and more sustainably managed ocean – now and in the future. Please join me in supporting SB 1510.

Sincerely,

Laura Schmidt
735 SE 32nd Ave, Portland, OR 97214

CC: Senator Diane Rosenbaum
CC: Representative Jules Bailey