

February 7, 2020

To: The Honorable Michael Dembrow, Chair
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Oregon State Legislature

Testimony on Senate Bill 1554

Dear Chair Dembrow and members of the Committee,

As Executive Director of the Oregon Ocean Science Trust, it is my pleasure to confirm that the OOST is ready and available to receive and distribute funds from Senate Bill 1554. This is precisely the role for which the legislature created OOST in 2013, as our purpose is to promote peer-reviewed, competitive research that leads to increased knowledge and understanding of Oregon's ocean and coastal resources.

We have a unique capacity in this bill as the fiscal agent for a portion of the funds. Specifically:

- 1) OOST has a fully formed Board that is ready to work with the OAOH Council to prepare Requests for Proposals, technically review and evaluate proposals, award contracts and manage grant agreements and reporting requirements.
- 2) OOST has the administrative rules in place to run a successful competitive grant program.
- 3) OOST has an account set up in the Oregon Treasury for funds deposit and dispersal.

Many of our partners are here to testify on the important and urgent nature of the work that can be accomplished with these funds. OOST is proud to be of service to the State of Oregon in supporting their science and education efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of this valuable ocean research and education.



Laura Anderson
Executive Director
Oregon Ocean Science Trust

laura@localocean.net
541-961-2524