

APRIL 13, 2021

Support HB 2695A

FROM THE DESK OF
REPRESENTATIVE KEN HELM

Ken Helm

APR 12 2021

- ✓ Increases membership of the Oregon State Marine Board to better represent the diverse users of Oregon's waterbodies.
- ✓ Adds two non-voting agency board members to provide expertise.
- ✓ Ensures public participation in substantive policy conversations.



1. Expansion of State Marine Board (OSMB) from five to eight members –
Includes the perspectives of the diverse users of Oregon's waterbodies.

- *Broadens representation of user groups*
- *Expands member knowledge base to address ongoing complex issues*
- *Provides representation of all waterway users and impacted user groups*
- *Ensures Board expertise in considering environmental and habitat impacts*
- *Prevents special interest influences from driving rulemaking*

2. Addition of two non-voting members – Provides a forum for intergovernmental collaboration and the sharing of expertise between OSMB and partnering agencies. Two ex officio nonvoting members will be appointed from:

- **Department of State Lands**
 - *Impacts on embankments and property held in the Public Trust*
- **Department of Environmental Quality**
 - *Turbidity levels exceeding state and federal clean water standards*
- **National Marine Fisheries Service**
 - *Impacts to habitat and endangered species*

3. Inclusion of the public in OSMB deliberations – Improves communication with the public and increases transparency.

HB 2695A advances transparency and provides members of the public with an opportunity to engage with OSMB members in a meaningful exchange on the policy issues under consideration.

Vote 'YES' on HB 2695A

