

To: House Energy & Environment Committee
From: Rand Schenck
RE: House Bill 3375

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, Vice-Chair Helm, and members of the committee,

I strongly urge you to support HB 3375 as this bill will help jumpstart Oregon in the race to ensure we have ample renewable energy not only for our state but others in the region as well. One of our most significant sources of renewable energy in the future will be from offshore wind energy. We are blessed with having one of the most reliable sources of offshore wind on the west coast just off our shores in southern Oregon.

I have family members from northern Europe and they have already made much progress in providing renewable energy from offshore wind for their communities. We can do the same here. We know that if we are to successfully address the climate crisis that we must electrify almost everything. To do that responsibly means ensuring that our electricity is generated from renewable energy sources and offshore wind will go a long way to ensuring that we meet that need.

While meeting our future energy needs from renewable sources, offshore wind energy will without a doubt bring transformative economic development to coastal regions. We know from projects already in the planning stage on the East Coast that OSW will support many thousands of jobs. Coos Bay is the largest deep draft coastal harbor from San Francisco to the Puget Sound and well suited to become the hub for this emerging industry harnessing the massive clean energy resource located off Oregon's coast.

We also know that OSW will both increase the energy security for areas that are especially vulnerable to power outages and thus ensure that those communities are more resilient in the face of climate driven wildfires or catastrophes like earthquakes and tsunamis.

Please act now and pass HB 3375 to provide the foundation for what has the potential to be a real game changer not only for our coastal areas but also for the entire state in both addressing the climate crisis and providing much needed economic development for an area that has long suffered from economic distress.

Sincerely,
Rand Schenck. Portland, Oregon 97212