

Garibaldi Charters Deep Sea Fishing

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2/9/2022

To Whom it May Concern:

My family has been in the charter fishing business over 20 years. We would like to express our strong support for HB 4072, as effectively reducing the daily fishing/shellfish combo license fees will support our coastal economies.

Not too long ago, you used to be able to purchase a license to fish (no crabbing license needed) for around \$15. Today, many coastal visitors and charter customers must purchase the daily combination fishing/shellfish license, which now stands at a staggering **\$32.50**. This price should have never been reached, but the task force assigned to figure out a way to prevent the scheduled rate hike before 2020 failed to do so. Legislative Concept #470 recently failed to make it to statute to provide relief for the high prices.

The cost of Oregon's daily fishing/shellfish combo license is particularly alarming when you consider that both Washington and California have similar combo licenses under \$20. In fact, fishermen on Washington charter boats only pay about \$11 for a daily fishing/shellfish license!

Sometimes customers back out of reservations once they find out how much the licenses cost, especially since we've had to raise our prices recently due to pandemic related capacity restrictions and skyrocketing fuel prices. This has an extremely negative impact on our entire community, as fishing draws large amounts of visitors to our coastal towns each summer.

There is an immediate need to reduce the daily fishing/shellfish license fees to align more closely with our neighboring states. We applaud the ODFW's recent addition of the \$10 youth license that helps keep fishing affordable for families, but we believe it is imperative that Oregon takes immediate action to keep the adult daily license fees from having a devastating impact on our Oregon coastal communities.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,
Tamara Mautner