

Submitter: Jack Craven

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: HB4072

February 9, 2022

To the House committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

I am writing to express my support for HB 4072.

The reduction of license prices for fishing and crabbing trips will substantially help Oregon Coast Charter businesses and attract more participants to Oregon's marine fisheries.

I have been in the charter industry since 1998 and watched license fees climb during that time. I sell one day licenses at my business every morning and have seen firsthand how people are affected by high license fees. Many people wince at the cost at best, others choose to not participate in the crab fishery at all when they see the extra cost incurred from the license fees. The high cost barrier discourages tourists that we depend on from participating in our fisheries and negatively affects our crews and families that depend on those tourist dollars.

After talking with many out of state tourists about the license cost it has become clear that while some will still come fishing, they will come less often, others however have decided they will try fishing in neighboring states where license costs are less instead of returning to the Oregon Coast.

Oregon's marine fisheries have been on a high note as of late for species like Salmon and Halibut. As soon as runs take a downturn, which will happen since all our fisheries are cyclical, the high license cost will deter fishermen from participating even more, since species like rockfish are less prized than salmon and halibut.

Oregon's high license prices have been one of our number one concerns in the charter industry since the bill was passed to increase them. It would be a welcome change to see a fishermen's license fee reduced from \$32.50 to \$23 for a one-day license.

Thank you for your consideration, please pass HB 4072

Jack Craven  
Owner Yaquina Bay Charters LLC