

Submitter: Alex Dunn  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR5

As a fourth generation Oregonian, I would like to offer my testimony supporting HJR 5. Hunting, fishing and gathering is an integral part of my family tradition. From fishing the beautiful coastal rivers for salmon and steelhead, hunting waterfowl in the willamette valley or spending a week in at elk camp in the Snake River canyon, hunting and fishing is literally a way of life for many Oregonians like myself. By participating in this family tradition, I have learned great respect for game. It literally changes the way you look at food. Each meal you prepare and share with family and friends becomes more significant when you honor the animal you have harvested. The people I fish and hunt with have this same level of respect. We spend our money and free time joining groups like Ducks Unlimited, Coastal Conservation Association and Oregon Hunters Association to ensure habitat improvement and protection of this resource. We volunteer our time hanging wood duck boxes or clipping hatchery smolt fins before their release. We do this, in part, to pass on this wonderful tradition to future generations so they have the same opportunity to enjoy the bounty and learn the same lessons. As an experienced hunter/fisherman, I relish the opportunity to help a younger person catch their first king salmon or harvest their first mallard duck. Please have Oregon join the 23 other states that recognize the tradition of hunting and gathering as a fundamental right and value.