

Submitter: Nadia Gardner

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and  
Water

Measure: HB4132

As a coastal resident and parent, I ask that you support HB 4132 to build Oregon's Marine Reserve Program. For 10 years, the program has grown our knowledge of Oregon's ocean, allowing us to better manage our natural resources. This supports our rural coastal economies in the long term and helps ensure coastal resiliency in the face of changing ocean conditions.

A 10 year evaluation showed that the Marine Reserve Program has done a great job with limited resources, and made some recommendations to do even better. HB 4132 will direct implementation and help fund those recommendations. Passage will allow the Program to succeed in its goals to conserve marine habitats, promote biodiversity, and to provide areas where scientific research and monitoring can be conducted and comparison studies can be done. We and our children will benefit in the long term.

My son is 8 years old, the same age as the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve, the last marine reserve to go into effect in 2016. We walk along, boogie board, and wildlife watch in the marine reserve regularly. If we do this right, he will see how our marine protected areas and the resulting scientific research help us be resilient in an uncertain future. I thank you for your support on his behalf.

Sincerely,  
Nadia Gardner  
Arch Cape, Oregon