

Submitter: Natalie Nites

On Behalf  
Of:

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

Measure: HB4132

I am writing in full support of the HB 4132 bill, to further invest in our state's Marine Reserves Program. The Marine Reserves have proved to support our understanding of current ocean issues including sea star wasting and tracking of acidification and hypoxia; improving nearshore management including improved fisheries stock assessments and development of a human dimensions focused fisheries model. Marine Reserves can and do work well when they are properly funded and don't become "paper parks". Considering the numerous anthropogenic impacts effecting our oceans and shorelines, supporting approaches that include human dimensions with conservation approaches seem to be the best path forward.