

To: Co Chairs Rep. Ken Helm and Rep. Mark Owens,

Vice Chair: Rep. Sarah McDonald

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

From: Robert Bailey, Board President

Elakha Alliance, PO Box 704, Siletz, Oregon 97380

RE: Support for HB 2984

The Elakha Alliance is an Oregon non-profit organization with a mission to return sea otters to the Oregon coast in order to restore and protect the productivity, resilience and vitality of our kelp forests and our marine and estuarine ecosystems.

The Elakha Alliance strongly supports HB2984 and the funding it would provide to the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund.

The OCRF plays a unique role in Oregon by supporting local and grassroots organizations such as the Elakha Alliance to restore, protect and conserve our precious and increasingly threatened wildlife and their habitats.

If the Oregon Conservation Strategy – our state's Wildlife Action Plan – is to mean anything, it must have funds for implementation. HB2984 will help provide necessary funding to do so.

Thank you for your consideration of our remarks.

Robert Bailey

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