

Submitter: Natalia Neal

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2557

Dear Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water,

I am writing as a concerned Oregon resident to voice my strong support for House Bill 2557, which would prohibit the farming of octopuses for human consumption in our state.

Octopuses are not just highly intelligent creatures—they are problem solvers, capable of complex behaviors, emotional responses, and even forming bonds with humans. Science has shown that they experience pain, stress, and suffering in captivity, making octopus farming inherently inhumane. Unlike traditional aquaculture, there is no ethical way to confine these deeply sentient animals without causing them distress.

Beyond animal welfare concerns, industrial octopus farming carries serious environmental risks. It leads to increased waste, excessive resource consumption, and potential harm to marine ecosystems. Oregon has long been a leader in sustainability and responsible stewardship of our natural resources—allowing octopus farming would be a step in the wrong direction.

Passing HB 2557 would reaffirm Oregon's commitment to compassion, conservation, and responsible policy-making. I urge you to stand on the right side of history by voting in favor of this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Natalia Neal