



HUMANE VOTERS | OREGON

Testimony of Humane Voters Oregon on House Bill 2557
House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

February 3, 2025

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice Chair McDonald, and Members of the Committee:

Humane Voters Oregon is a nonprofit organization that works in Oregon's political process and elections to promote humane treatment of animals. We are not affiliated with any other state or national organization.

Humane Voters Oregon supports House Bill 2557, which would prohibit the raising and selling of farmed octopus for human consumption.

Octopuses are highly intelligent, sentient, and solitary animals particularly ill-suited for the extreme confinement of commercial farming. (See [*World's first octopus farm proposals alarm scientists*](#), BBC, March 15, 2023.) For this and other reasons, Washington and California have already passed legislation that prohibits the farming of octopuses for human consumption. (LPRO preliminary analysis.)

We are not aware of any existing or proposed octopus farms in Oregon, so a prohibition now would prevent a cruel industry from taking hold in Oregon without defeating any business expectations. The proposed prohibition on selling farmed octopus for human consumption also would help discourage the farming of octopuses in other locations.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Brian Posewitz
Director