

Submitter: Stephanie MIDKIFF

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2557

I am writing in support of HB 2557 to ban octopus farming and the sale of farmed octopus in Oregon. Research over the last few years has shown that octopus are very intelligent creatures that play, communicate, problem solve, use tools, have emotional intelligence, and feel pain and stress. More is being written about what wonderful and intelligent creatures they are -- for instance Sy Montgomery's book *The Soul of an Octopus*. See also the Nature program available on OPB, *Octopus: Making Contact*, and links below. They are solitary creatures and to "factory farm" octopus and stuff them in tanks would be cruel and torturous. Just because we can do something doesn't mean we should do it. Factory farming of octopus is one of those things. Please join Washington and California and ban octopus farming. Pass HB 2557 out of committee and support Representative Zach Hudson's sponsorship of this bill. Thank you.

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/octopuses-keep-surprising-us-here-are-eight-examples-how.html>

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/octopus-teachers-demonstrate-they-feel-emotional-pain/>