

Submitter: Krista Reynolds

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2965

Please support HB 2965-5. As an Oregonian, it's important to me that we protect Oregon's coastal waters from the harms of industrial aquaculture. It has been scientifically proven that net pen aquaculture of finfish causes environmental and socioeconomic harms. As noted by NOAA, "When finfish aquaculture operations are in the marine environment, water moves freely between farms and the ocean. Risks include the amplification and transmission of disease between farmed and wild fish, and the introduction of nonnative pathogens and parasites when fish are transported." Our native marine fishes are already struggling due to environmental stresses, such as ocean acidification and climate change. They need to be protected from additional threats. We want Oregon to prevent an influx of such operations now that they are banned or seriously restricted on the rest of the West Coast. Source: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/insight/marine-aquaculture-and-environment>. Thank you.