

Submitter: Donovan James

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2965

Please support HB 2965-5. I've lived in Oregon for 13 years, and its vital to our state's future that we protect our coastal waters from the harms of industrial aquaculture. The net pens that are placed directly in the water release fish feed, feces, pharmaceuticals, and other chemicals directly into the surrounding waters. A typical industrial farm of several hundred thousand fish produces around one million pounds of waste annually, which is unacceptable and preventable. These fish farms can also spread disease from farmed to wild fish. So HB 2965-5 is critical for preventing disease outbreaks, environmental pollution, and the spread of invasive species. The goal is to preserve native ecosystems for coastal wildlife, recreation and tourism, and commercial-fishing communities. This is what's best for Oregon, and why I'm encouraging you to support HB 2965-5. Thank you.