

Submitter: Jen Bowen

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2965

I strongly support HB 2965-5 because we need to protect our coastal waters from the harms of industrial finfish aquaculture. Oregon must join California, Washington, and Alaska in banning this harmful industry before it takes hold here. Studies have shown that net pen aquaculture causes serious problems like fish escapes, parasites, disease, and pollution, all of which threaten wild fish and the environment. Our Southern Resident orcas are critically endangered with only 73 left, and they require healthy wild salmon to survive. These orcas are a vitally important to both the greater ecosystem and to the culture of the PNW as a whole. We can't afford to put their future—or the health of our coastal waters—at risk. Thank you.