

Submitter: Gail Sabbadini

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3580

I am a retired biologist living in Oregon. I am very concerned about climate change and preserving healthy ecosystems near the coastline and in the forests of Oregon. I support HP 3580, the eelgrass action bill, for the following reasons.

- 1) eelgrass meadows help lower the acidity of the ocean by the uptake of carbon dioxide.
 - 2) eelgrass meadows help protect fish and shellfish populations and also help keep shells and carapaces strong.
 - 3) eelgrass meadows filter, seawater and reduce the occurrences and expensive losses that come from toxic algal blooms.
 - 4) eelgrass meadows form the base of a complex food, web of insects, crustaceans, birds and fish, and therefore the businesses that rely on seafood productivity.
- Thank you for your consideration of my viewpoint.