

OREGON HUMANE SOCIETY

Date: March 4, 2025

To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Co-Chairs Helm and Owens and Members of the Committee

From: Veronica Broadley, Humane Law Enforcement Support Services Manager, Oregon Humane Society

RE: Letter of Support for House Bill 3314 -1

On behalf of the Oregon Humane Society, I am writing to express our support for House Bill 3314-1.

Oregon Humane Society (OHS) is a partner to Human Access Project and very supportive of their collaborative work with Oregon State University to improve ecology in the Willamette River and solve the toxic problem caused by Ross Island Lagoon.

Many of OHS' supporters - including donors, adopters, staff, and volunteers - bring their pets to the Willamette River to play and recreate. The river flows through the heart of our city and should be a safe and fun place to visit. As it is now, Ross Island Lagoon threatens community safety and livability as the source of hazardous algal blooms year after year. Water contaminated with harmful cyanobacteria blooms can be lethal to dogs and endangers the health of people and other animals who access the river or become exposed to the algae-contaminated water.

The Willamette River is an important pathway for juvenile salmon as they migrate to the ocean, but the Ross Island Lagoon is inaccessible to them in its current stagnant state. Once improved, the Ross Island Lagoon can become an important habitat for Oregon's salmon.

This is a solvable issue, with your help.

The funding provided by HB 3314 -1 will be a big step forward to end dangerous river algae blooms caused by Ross Island Lagoon.

Please invest in making our river a safe place for everyone to access. Vote yes on HB 3314 -1.

Respectfully,



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