

Testimony in Support of HB 3246
Amy Wentworth, Director of Environmental Health and Safety
Pacific Seafood
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Chair Nguyen, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 3246. My name is Amy Wentworth and I serve as the Senior Director of Environmental Health and Safety for Pacific Seafood.

At Pacific Seafood, sustainability is at the core of our operations. We believe that protecting our natural resources goes hand in hand with strengthening local communities and economies. That's why we are strong supporters of industrial symbiosis, which this bill promotes.

Industrial symbiosis is an innovative approach where businesses collaborate to turn traditional "waste" into valuable resources—whether it's energy, water, or new products. This approach has already been working in Oregon, after all, making products from excess resources is an excellent business strategy. Our Pacific Bio Products plants, for example, take fresh seafood processing cuttings—once considered waste—and convert them into high-quality animal feed ingredients, aquaculture diets, organic fertilizers, and specialty proteins. This ensures that every part of the natural resource – fish, in this case – is used productively; creating sustainable, high-value products while reducing environmental impact.

After 84 years of operating in the seafood business, we employ many experts in harvesting, processing, and distributing fish. We know seafood. Many businesses in the communities we operate in are also experts at innovating unique, high quality products, and undoubtedly create byproducts, such as organics, minerals, heat, and steam, that go underutilized. Individually, we are well equipped and experienced at doing what we do and making what we make, but we currently lack pathways to share our excess resources with other businesses. Pacific Seafood strongly supports this bill because it would provide a roadmap for identifying potential symbiotic relationships – the critical first step in understanding how to maximize our resource utilization, reduce waste even further, and innovate new products from these business-to-business relationships.

By selecting pilot communities across Oregon and providing technical assistance, HB 3246 ensures that businesses—large and small—can take part in this circular economy. New experts can emerge at the center of these relationships. New products and less waste can promote stronger economies, better resilience to rising costs, and create new jobs.

For Pacific Seafood, this means less waste, more efficiency, and stronger communities. We see this as a win for business, a win for the environment, and a win for Oregon.

I urge your support for HB 3246, and I appreciate the chance to speak today. I'm happy to answer any questions.

