

Submitter: Laura Anderson
On Behalf Of: Local Ocean Seafoods
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3786

Dear Committee Chair and Members:

I write to strongly support the Oregon's Ocean Science Trust and the request for investment to support science and sound policy making about ocean and coastal resources.

As the founder of Local Ocean Seafoods, sustainable and predictable fisheries are very important to our 80 employee-owners, our hundreds of thousands of customers, and most importantly the 35+ fishers that we purchase seafood from every year. These funds will result in valuable knowledge about our key fishery species and the habitats they rely on and the changing ocean conditions that effect our fish migrations and food web success. Fisheries, and the visitors that come to eat fish, are a stronghold of our Oregon coast economy. And these investments will help ensure the continued success of the businesses that rely on these resources.

I know there are a lot of issues facing the state this session: important issues like housing, health, education and transportation. I believe, in fact that the issues addressed in this bill, including climate mitigation, biodiversity, and food production are part and parcel to those essential issues. In fact, I believe that these basic human needs are predicated on the health and well management of natural resources- particularly the ocean.

I thank you for your consideration and support of this bill.

Laura Anderson
Local Ocean Seafoods, founder
Oregon Ocean Science Trust, chair