"I give the Oregon Coast Visitors Association permission to submit this testimony on my behalf."

Travis Thompson

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As a small business owner specializing in storytelling through film, my company has been privileged to share the stories of the Oregon Coast and its seafood industry for the past decade.

This bill is important to me because I've witnessed firsthand the significant impact a thriving seafood industry has on the Oregon Coast economy. Growing up in a commercial fishing family in Newport and now telling the stories of the industry gives me a unique perspective. I've seen how essential it is not only for a healthy tourism economy but also for providing stable job opportunities for locals and newcomers to the coast.

Offering children the chance to develop the skills needed for careers in seafood is vital to sustaining a prosperous coastal economy. Having graduated from a coastal high school, I understand how difficult it can be to build a life on the coast without quality career options.

This bill will help keep families on the coast and support them in building meaningful careers. I wholeheartedly support it.

Sincerely, Travis Thompson