



March 15, 2025

Rep. Ken Helm and Rep. Mark Owens  
Co-Chairs, House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Re: HB 3786(Support)

Co-Chairs Ken Helm and Mark Owens and Honorable of the Committee

On behalf of Surfrider Foundation's Oregon chapter network and our thousands of coastal supporters, we strongly support HB 3786 to fund critical ocean and coastal science that informs management of our state's invaluable marine resources.

Oregon's beaches, estuaries, and ocean are central to our identity, economy, and way of life. Yet, climate-driven ocean changes—including sea-level rise, intensifying storms, acidification, and habitat loss—threaten coastal communities, fisheries, and recreation. These challenges demand state investment in science and monitoring to guide effective management.

State decision-makers need robust data to address pressing issues, including:

- Coastal erosion and storm surge threatening infrastructure and public access.
- Ocean acidification and hypoxia disrupting marine ecosystems and fisheries.
- Blue carbon storage potential in coastal habitats to support climate goals.

With declining federal funding for ocean research, Oregon must step up. The Oregon Ocean Science Trust provides a proven, efficient mechanism to direct state funds toward actionable science. I write this to you today from the community of Newport, where my partner and many others who work federal ocean and coastal agencies like NOAA have lost their jobs and associated investments in ocean science.

Surfrider Foundation is dedicated to protecting and enjoying Oregon's ocean, waves, and beaches. Our network of coastal chapters directly experiences these changes and understands the necessity of science-driven policy. We urge you to support HB 3786 to ensure informed coastal management for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Plybon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "P" and "y" in "Plybon".

Charlie Plybon  
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