



**West Coast Seafood Processors Association**  
P.O. Box 1127  
Astoria, OR 97103  
(503) 227-5076

March 19, 2025

**Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chair Dobson, Vice-Chair McIntyre and Members of the House Committee on Education:**

On behalf of the West Coast Seafood Processors Association (WCSPA), I am writing in support of House Bill 3568.

WCSPA represents shoreside seafood processing companies and related businesses located in California, Oregon, and Washington. Our processors range from “mom and pop” operations to some of the largest seafood companies in the West Coast, employing thousands of workers in harvesting, processing, transporting, and distributing seafood across the country and throughout the world. Oregon’s seafood industry generates billions of dollars in sales and is a critical source of year-round employment in many economically depressed coastal communities. The seafood our members produce is sold to local markets on the West Coast, throughout America and overseas.

This bill holds the potential to bring highly nutritious, sustainable seafood to schoolchildren – children who require proteins, vitamins and minerals vital to their physical and mental health. Various seafood products have these vitamins and minerals in abundance. Providing seafood to schools would also create an inherent interest in the origin of their meals: The fishing vessels and processors in the very coastal communities in which they live or visit.

This bill represents a true win-win-win. While schoolchildren get healthy meals and learn about a vital Oregon industry, the fishermen and seafood processors can also broaden their market access to keep fishing vessels, processors and their associated crews working year-round.

HB 3568 provides a healthy option for schools and schoolchildren, represents an investment in the future and supports local businesses that are the cornerstone of coastal communities.

With these thoughts in mind, we support HB 3568.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori L. Steele". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lori Steele  
Executive Director