



March 21, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment
Rep. John Lively, Chair
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, OR

Re: HB 31824: **Opposition**

Dear Chair Lively and members of the Committee,

Oregon Coast Alliance (ORCA) is an Oregon nonprofit corporation whose mission is protection of coastal natural resources and improvement of livability for coastal residents.

We write you today about HB 3814, concerning seafood processing. ORCA unequivocally opposes the bill as introduced, which would simply tie DEQ's hands and prevent the agency from requiring seafood processors from meeting **any** water quality standards for fecal contamination.

This proposed bill is absurd. There are no public health standards or criteria that are required to be met, as virtually every other state with seafood processing requires. This bill would seriously endanger human and marine health, as well as rob DEQ of all authority.

There is a -1 amendment to the bill which ORCA also opposes in its current form. ORCA is not in favor of mixing zones; there are other technologies, or developing technologies, that can do a much better job of processing seafood waste than merely diluting the pollution – which is no solution at all to the underlying problem.

However, as a stopgap measure for seafood processors who cannot meet current water quality standards, the -1 amendment could be acceptable if it included: (a) strictly worded standards protecting human health and marine ecological integrity as part of the mixing

zone criteria; and (b) standards for the “best water management practices” based on a carefully defined source identification study for each and every source – *not* a single study purporting to encompass all seafood processors.

Please **oppose** HB 3814 in its current form and the -1 amendments unless modified as described above.

Thank you,

/s/ Cameron La Follette

Cameron

--

Executive Director
Oregon Coast Alliance

