



OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Representative Boomer Wright
House District 09

April 7, 2025

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham and members of the Senate Committee on Rules:

Thank you for holding a public hearing on Senate Concurrent Resolution 20 which celebrates the rich history of the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology at the University of Oregon. As you well know, the Oregon Coast is as rugged as it is beautiful, and anything that survives as well as flourishes for 100 years next to and on the mighty Pacific Ocean is worthy of the Legislature's recognition!

I've made it my life's mission to improve lives in a narrow stretch of coastal Douglas and Lane Counties, and by ensuring that children in that area get a high-quality education. I've seen firsthand how the Oregon Marine Institute of Marine Biology shares my commitment to both this special place, and to students from Oregon and across the globe.

In my current role, I was happy to introduce HB 3486 as Chief Sponsor, a bill to ensure sufficient funding for OIMB researchers to utilize the research vessels that the Oregon Legislature has been instrumental in funding. That bill is now in Joint Ways and Means. I want to ensure that the OIMB can continue its important ocean research for decades, if not centuries to come.

If you look at my House District 9, and indeed any coastal district, you'll see that the westernmost boundaries of these districts do not in fact end at the beach. Indeed, coastal districts extend into the Pacific. It is within these waters that the OIMB works for all Oregonians, providing important research that both protects what I've argued is our most precious resource, but also ensuring that coastal residents can earn livelihoods through sustainable fishing and other harvesting of other resources available from the sea.

Please adopt Senate Concurrent Resolution 20 as written and I look forward to voting on it in the House.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Boomer Wright", with a long, sweeping underline.