
Arnie Roblan

Oregon Speaker of the House of Representatives & Oregon Senator - Retired

Caddy Hanen McKeown

Oregon House of Representative - Retired

May 6, 2025

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Drazen and Pham, and members of the House Committee on Rules:

We write today to urge your support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 20, and offer our thanks to Senators Anderson and Frederick for ensuring its introduction.

Simply put, we are now entering the 101st year of the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology providing huge value to our state. We are glad you are formally celebrating their 100th anniversary.

We have been privileged to formerly represent significant portions of the central and south coast, and to serve as members of the Coastal Caucus during our legislative tenures. While serving we were proud to be involved with the funding that ensured the Research Vessel Megalopa was able to be built locally and launched in June, 2023.

We also well recall then-Governor Kulongoski's Oregon Solutions Program pulling together local stakeholders who worked tirelessly to identify a series of needs and associated recommendations involving the central coast. Eight years later, that effort culminated in the opening of the Charleston Marine Life Center, the public door into the value that results from the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology's research and teaching.

And this year, we were happy to support HB 3486, a measure that will ensure that the research vessels operating out of Winchester and Newport will have

adequate funding to continue gathering important data, while training future marine scientists in their craft.

Oregon is home to many wonderful and valuable natural resources, not the least of which is our beloved Pacific Ocean. The University of Oregon's Institute of Marine Biology helps us better understand, protect and sustain our marine environment, and we hope the Legislature continues to support OIMB's work through their next 100 years.

Please vote to adopt SCR 20 in your House Rules Committee.

Sincerely,

Caddy McKeown

Arnie Roblan

(Submitted electronically by the signators)