

Submitter: Megan Dompe
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade
Measure, Appointment or HB4086
Topic:

Chair Nguyen and Members of the House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade,

I am writing to express my strong support for Proposed Oregon House Bill 4086.

With what we now know about the potential for 100% fish utilization, failing to invest in the creation of a comprehensive roadmap for potential industrial symbiosis is comparable to throwing significant dollars into the garbage. Ironically, that is precisely what we are currently doing with the amount of waste produced within the blue foods sector- discarding valuable resources that could otherwise be transformed into high value products. HB 4086 represents an opportunity to shift from waste to value, from inefficiency to innovation.

This legislation also opens the door for entrepreneurship and new business development in coastal communities that have historically relied almost exclusively on tourism and commercial fishing. By encouraging full utilization and cross-sector collaboration, we create opportunities for new processing, manufacturing, research, and product development ventures that strengthen and diversify local economies.

Moreover, this initiative has the potential to put Oregon on the map as a national leader in innovative blue economy practices. We are talking about transforming a fish once valued at approximately \$12 into products worth upwards of \$4,700 through strategic utilization and value added development. That kind of multiplier effect is not only economically compelling, it is visionary. Oregon has the chance to lead the country in demonstrating how sustainability and economic development can work hand in hand.

I urge you to support House Bill 4086 and invest in a roadmap that positions Oregon at the forefront of innovation, reduces waste, strengthens coastal economies, and maximizes the value of our natural resources.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Megan Dompe
Sustainable Agriculture and Economic Development Advocate, Lane County