

Submitter: Amy Anderson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4086

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Amy Anderson, and I am writing in strong support of HB 4086.

This bill represents smart, forward-thinking economic development for Oregon. By advancing Industrial Symbiosis and strengthening the 100 Percent Fish initiative, HB 4086 helps turn waste into wealth. The backbone of the Oregon economy is rooted in our natural resources. Right now, we are literally throwing money in the garbage when fish carcasses are thrown away. Instead of discarding valuable byproducts at seafood processing plants, we can create new industries, new jobs, and new revenue streams right here in our coastal communities. Implemented properly, the wealth we are currently throwing away could restore the wealth to Oregon that the decline of the timber industry took from our state.

We have already seen proof that this works. The Iceland Ocean Cluster transformed a cod worth about \$12 in filet value into \$4,700 in total economic value by utilizing parts of the fish that would otherwise be thrown away. Fish skin, bones, and other byproducts can be used to create collagen, nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, fish leather, and even medical products such as skin graft materials. That is innovation rooted in sustainability.

Oregon has the talent, the research institutions, and the seafood industry to replicate this success. What HB 4086 does is begin building the roadmap. It connects entrepreneurs with seafood processors and other industries. It supports research and development. It lowers barriers to entry. And it signals that Oregon is serious about building a resilient, diversified coastal economy.

When government makes strategic investments, it provides the certainty the private sector needs to invest its own capital. HB 4086 sends a clear message that Oregon is ready to support value-added production, cross-industry collaboration, and long-term economic growth.

This is not just about reducing waste. It is about strengthening coastal communities, creating higher-wage jobs, and positioning Oregon as a leader in sustainable innovation.

I respectfully urge you to support HB 4086.

Thank you for your consideration.