

Hampton Susan

Subject: FW: Support for SB 1510

From: Gabe Scheer [<mailto:scheer73@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 12:04 AM
To: Patrino Beth
Subject: Support for SB 1510

February 1, 2012

The Honorable Jackie Dingfelder

Chairs Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

900 Court St. NE, H-484 Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Dingfelder and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Gabriel Scheer, and I am in support of SB 1510. SB 1510 designates three marine reserve sites at Cape Icon, Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua. I believe these designations are absolutely necessary and beneficial to both our coastal natural resources and continued economic viability in the future. By protecting some of Oregon's most ecologically diverse and sensitive areas, we will be ensuring a robust marine heritage for generations to come.

As a marine biologist, I have had the opportunity to study and work in marine reserves for my entire career. The difference between these protected zones and commercially exploited areas is striking and visibly tangible. In addition to being ecologically forward thinking, they can also be extremely beneficial to the long-term economic viability of our coastal fisheries. In my years studying the ocean I have learned one thing that is a universal rule in marine ecosystems: that is the fact that there is always change. Sometimes it is large and sometimes very minor, but the more we learn about the oceans, the more we realize what we don't know. With the industrial scale exploitation of our oceans resources, coupled with the inherently difficult to predict nature of assessment, it makes logical sense to protect at least some of them from commercial extraction. By supporting SB1510, you can be a part of Oregon's first step a more sustainable and precautionary management of our coastal resources.

We all benefit from a productive and sustainably managed ocean, this is one small step in that direction. Please join me in supporting SB 1510.

Sincerely,
Gabriel Scheer