

February 2, 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


I am writing in support of SB 1510. I do so because of my concern with respect to the sustainability of the State's marine resources.

Oregon's Territorial Sea is a public resource, so all Oregonians share responsibility for managing it wisely for present and future generations. This legislation provides for both a short- and a long-term plan for effectively creating and adaptively managing marine protected areas and reserves by considering the needs of the local communities and the state as a whole – the ocean users, the businesses and organizations that depend on a healthy ocean, and the plants and animals that live in and around our waters.

I moved to Oregon from the Midwest five years ago, in part because of the beauty of the state – its mountains and its coast in particular. Though I live in the Willamette valley, I often visit the coast to walk on the beaches and on the forested trails, to explore its tide pools, and to enjoy its bounty. I try to buy food grown and produced locally, and am particularly fond of salmon, crabs, and other seafood, so I worry about declining catches and what this may imply for future availability. Marine reserves and protected areas have been shown to enhance sea life, and therefore its sustainability. This is important to the fishermen and local businesses in coastal communities, to citizens throughout the state, and most important, to future generations. I want my two grandchildren, now almost 2 and 4 years old, to be able to enjoy the ocean and the marine life that I so highly value.

We all benefit from a productive and more sustainably managed ocean – now and in the future. Please join me in supporting SB 1510.

Sincerely,

  
Willard Rodgers  
2050 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97405

Cc: Senator Floyd Prozanski  
Rep. Paul Holvey