



Institute for Sustainable Solutions

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Members of the Oregon Legislature,

The Institute for Sustainable Solutions (ISS) at Portland State University is playing a leading role in developing the Cascadia Ecosystem Services Partnership (CaESP). The goal of the CaESP is to increase communication, collaboration and standards development around research and outreach related to ecosystem services in the Cascadia region. Many of the prospective members are based in Oregon and have been supportive of HB 4126 and SB 1511 as being a means for furthering their capacity to do meaningful work. We also envision HB 4126 and SB 1511 potentially serving as a model to be used by other states in the region and nation, as they integrate ecosystem services into broader natural resource management plans and policies.

ISS is working on a variety of other projects focused on ecosystem services in the region that aim to link research, practice and policy. The Institute favors policies that aim to support the maintenance and restoration of ecosystem services in the State and to provide incentives for conservation of ecosystem services for long-term ecological, economic, and social benefits. We believe that the provisions laid out in this bill provide valuable leverage points and encourage common methodologies that will increase the effectiveness of our cross-sectorial work, and enhance the conservation of the State's natural heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Allen'.

Jennifer Allen, PhD
Acting Director
Institute for Sustainable Solutions