



**SIERRA  
CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

**OREGON CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB**

1821 SE ANKENY ST • PORTLAND, OR 97214  
PHONE (503) 238-0442 • FAX (503) 238-6281  
OREGON.CHAPTER@SIERRACLUB.ORG  
WWW.OREGON.SIERRACLUB.ORG

MEASURE HB 4042  
EXHIBIT: 5  
2014 SESSION H ENERGY & ENV.  
DATE: 2/4/2014 PAGES: 1  
SUBMITTED BY: Rhett Lawrence

To: Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee

From: Rhett Lawrence, Oregon Chapter Sierra Club

Date: February 4, 2014

RE: House Bill 4042

Chair Bailey and Members of the Committee: Good afternoon, my name is Rhett Lawrence and I'm the Conservation Director for the Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club. I'm here testifying on behalf of our more than 20,000 members and supporters in Oregon and I thank you for allowing my brief comments today.

As an organization with a long history working in support of renewable energy as well as the protection of Oregon's coasts and oceans, the Sierra Club supports House Bill 4042. Ocean energy represents a tremendous source of clean, reliable electricity and we are proud that Oregon is leading the nation to help develop this new source of carbon free electricity. There are certainly unknowns with regard to potential impacts of efforts to harness wave energy, but we believe that the Oregon Wave Energy Trust, Oregon State University, and others are working diligently to ensure that this budding technology will have the least possible impact on the ocean, its users, and sea life.

As you know, net metering is a well-established mechanism to help facilitate the distributed generation of power. Oregon's current law on net metering already allows a variety of energy sources, such as wind and solar, and HB 4042 would simply add wave energy into the list of acceptable forms of generation. Since net metering is the quickest, easiest, and cheapest way to bring small amounts of power onto the grid, it just makes sense to extend net metering to wave energy as well and put it on an equal footing with other renewable energy sources.

In conclusion, the Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club is pleased to support HB 4042 and we urge you to do the same. Thank you very much for considering our comments and I'd be happy to take any questions.