

Rep. Caddy McKeown, Chair
Sen. Jeff Kruse, Vice Chair
Rep. Deborah Boone
Rep. David Gomberg
Sen. Betsy Johnson
Rep. Wayne Krieger
Sen. Arnie Roblan
Sen. Doug Whitsett



May 21, 2015

Senator Fred Girod
Representative Tobias Read
State Capitol Building
Salem, Oregon 97301

Honorable Co-Chairs:

As members of the Coastal Caucus, we respectfully ask you to support funding for the Marine Studies Initiative contained in HB 5005, referred to the Joint Committee on Ways & Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction.

The OSU Marine Studies Initiative will capitalize on Oregon's reliance on the ocean for much of its economic, cultural, and recreational needs by developing an unprecedented educational, research, and outreach program.

The Marine Studies Initiative will create direct and indirect economic benefits for coastal economies through the addition of over 400 students as well as faculty and staff, increased growth through research expenditures, and greater output of a suitably trained and educated workforce in the marine and maritime sectors.

In addition to promoting safe, resilient, and economically healthy coastal communities, the Marine Studies Initiative will position Oregon as a global leader in addressing sustainable utilization of marine resources.

We ask that you give the OSU Marine Studies Initiative your thoughtful consideration, and we urge your support.

Best regards,

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Representative Caddy McKeown, Chair

Handwritten signature of Jeff Kruse in black ink.

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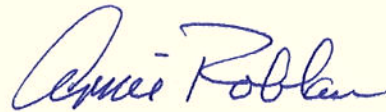
Representative Deborah Boone



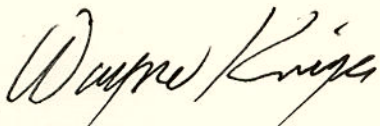
Senator Betsy Johnson



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