

March 21, 2017

Testimony of
Robert Bailey, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition
On House Bill 3149, Oregon Coast Trail
Before the
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Chairman Clem, Vice-chairs McLain and Sprenger, and Committee Members:

Good morning. My name is Robert Bailey. As a board member of the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, I am representing the organization.

Oregon Shores is very pleased to support this bill that we hope will hasten the completion of the Oregon Coast Trail. The Oregon coast is, in our view, Oregon's signature geographic feature. We believe that a completed Oregon Coast Trail, one that is safe and well-maintained, would show off our coast in all her glory and add immeasurably to the Oregon coast mystique. We also believe that it will make a significant contribution to the economy of coastal communities as new generations of coastal visitors seek to experience the coast in very personal ways.

This bill would elevate the status of the Oregon Coast Trail and put it squarely on the "to do" list for Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. The Action Plan called for in the bill will provide a strong reason for many outside interests to support completion of the trail.

Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition urges that you approve this bill.