

From: [Susan Mates](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 1554 - Please support our ocean
Date: Saturday, February 8, 2020 8:32:54 PM

To: Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources
Senator Dembrow, Chair
Email: senr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: SB 1554 - Relating to oceans; declaring an emergency

Thank you for the opportunity to support SB 1554, which invests in Oregon's ocean health, education, and knowledge of acidification and hypoxia.

I have been watching the news concerning our ocean's changes with increasing alarm, including the new NOAA-funded study of Dungeness crabs. I moved to Oregon 40 years ago, and have taken note of how empty the tide pools are compared to 1979. From increasing acidity, declining oxygen levels, and an ever-lengthening list of marine life we know to be impacted, it is clear we don't have time to wait on these issues.

SB 1554 provides a vital investment in Oregon's ocean. It would fund critical progress on the recommendations made by the many people who have studied these issues and worked to present science-based solutions for the most urgent issues for our marine ecosystems.

Please fund these actions, and fulfill obligations outlined in SB 1510. Provide marine scientists and other coastal interests with what they need to study, manage and monitor changes in order to help our oceans cope with these new challenges. Our coastal communities depend on the outcome as well.

Thank you,
Susan Mates
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