## **Oregon Coast Charter Association**

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To Whom it May Concern:

1/30/2021

On behalf of the Oregon Coast Charter Association, I would like to express support for HB 2067. Oregon Charter operators have been working with ODFW to find alternatives to increasing daily license fees since 2015, and are relieved that steps are now being made in the right direction.

In 2015, the fees for a daily fishing license were \$16.75. In 2016, fees raised to \$19, then \$21 and finally \$23 in 2020. Many of our customers purchase the daily combination fishing/shellfish license, which currently stands at a staggering **\$32.50**. Oregon's high cost is particularly alarming when you consider that Washington and California each offer versions of the same licenses for \$10-\$20 (depending on residency). This has a direct negative impact on the economy of our coastal communities.

HB 2067 will change the daily license to automatically include a shellfish license while leaving the price the same (\$23), effectively reducing the cost for many charter customers who need both a fishing and a crabbing license for a day on the water.

We applaud the ODFW's recent acknowledgement of the prohibitive high cost of daily licenses, including the rollout of a \$10 youth license that helps keep fishing affordable for families. Although HB 2067 doesn't address the high price of a daily license for those *not* needing a shellfish license, we still support its speedy approval, as we feel that HB 2067 is much needed step in the right direction. If Oregon chooses to continue on this path of supporting new fisherman and increasing participation by reducing fees, we believe that there will be a direct positive impact on our Oregon coastal communities.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter.

Tamara Mautner

Secretary, Oregon Coast Charter Association