



CITY OF YACHATS

PO Box 345 (501 N. Highway 101), Yachats OR 97498
Phone (541) 547-3565 Fax (541) 547-3063 Relay Oregon 800-735-2900
(TDD)

February 21, 2022

To: Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Fahey, and Members of the House Rules Committee

From: Leslie Vaaler, Mayor, City of Yachats

Re: Support House Bill 4158

HB 4158 provides an urgent short-term technical fix to Oregon's E-Cycles Program. The bill allows DEQ to change the projected goal of materials estimated to come into the program in 2022 and to retain existing collection sites that are slated to be dropped from the program on March 1, 2022.

Without the passage of this bill, the City of Yachats and southern Lincoln County will not have reasonable access to the services provided by this successful program, a program that, as noted on the DEQ website, conserves natural resources, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and protects health and the environment.

Dropping the current collection sites will not change the customer demand nor the volume of materials needing to be recycled, but it will make it difficult for those who no longer live near drop-off locations. It will disproportionately affect rural Oregonians. It will be particularly difficult for the elderly and for lower income citizens, many who cannot make long drives. While I believe that most of Yachats's citizens will do their best to avoid improper disposal of electronics, some will undoubtedly bring them with other garbage or dump them illegally.

In Yachats, we feel humbled by the beauty of our surroundings and called upon to be good stewards. Please partner in this responsibility. Please take steps so that the successful e-Cycling program does not drop needed sites. Please support HB4158.

Leslie Vaaler
Mayor, City of Yachats
Email: mayor@yachatsmail.org

E-MAIL CityHall@yachatsmail.org WEB SITE www.yachatsoregon.org

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