

Submitter: KATHLEEN DICKSON

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB679

I'm writing to voice my overwhelming LOVE for the Oregon Coast Trail, and ask that you please ultimately approve this bill.

I live just north of Brookings, off Highway 101 and within the Samuel Boardman corridor, and am lucky enough to have the Oregon Coast Trail right across the road from my house; it's close enough for me to hike it on a regular basis.

The Oregon Coast Trail was there for me and my friends during Covid, when about the only thing we COULD do as a group was to go hiking (wearing masks and socially distanced the whole time, of course) - thank goodness the O.C.T. was there for us then! And these days, the O.C.T. is what helps my hiking buddies and me keep in shape - the 12 miles within the Samuel Boardman Coordinator are especially favored by the group. It's where I take visitors; it's where we educate mushroom lovers during the Wild Rivers Mushroom Festival; it's where I go when I need to commune with nature.

The Oregon Coast Trail is the jewel of Oregon, in my opinion, and we would be terribly remiss if we didn't treat it as such. Please approve this bill and make the funds available so those of us who love the OCT can do our part to help to develop AND maintain it for locals and visitors for years to come!

Thank you,
Kathleen Dickson