



February 12, 2025

Senator Janeen Sollman  
Chair, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Re: SB 526 Mirofiber Solutions (Support)

Chair Sollman and Honorable Members of the Senate

On behalf of our entire Oregon chapter network, our greater membership and our thousands of Oregon supporters and volunteers, the Surfrider Foundation would like to express our strong support for SB 526, a bill to reduce the amount of plastic microfibers in our environment, waterways and world's ocean. Microfibers from our clothing and washing machines is a major source of plastic pollution that has been found in every major waterway in Oregon, in our shellfish and important ocean fisheries and even in our drinking water. These microfibers are highly preventable and as our plastic pollution crisis grows, it's critical that we take swift actions at the source where simple opportunities and technologies allow. SB 526 is one simple solution that can save our oceans and wildlife from irreparable harm and prevent plastic pollution at it's source.

Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots, non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our worlds ocean, waves and beaches. Our Oregon chapter network comprises thousands of supporters and volunteers throughout the state organized among our 5 distinct coastal chapters in Oregon. Our plastic pollution initiative includes extensive ongoing coastal beach cleanups, local policy advocacy, partnerships with researchers and business forward programs to reduce plastic waste such as our Ocean Friendly Restaurant and Lodging Programs.

Another key initiative for Surfrider Foundation is protecting important ocean ecosystems through key state conservation actions and programs such as Oregon's Marine Reserves. While such conservation efforts and special area designations such as marine reserves and protected areas are critical for sustainable management of Oregon's ocean resources, wildlife and fisheries, they are not immune to plastic pollution carried downstream from our wastewater, rivers and urban run off or stormwater. According to a [recent study conducted in Oregon](#) and published in the National Library of Medicine of black rockfish around marine reserves, one or more microparticles were found in the GI tract of 93.1% of the fish and were present in fish near four of Oreogn's marine reserves. Further, it was recently found that six Oregon commercial fishery species all contained primarily fibers in their edible tissues. We must take more comprehensive measures looking upstream if we want to holistically

We are excited for the opportunity to support a new solution for prevention of microfiber pollution through SB 526 and encourage your yes vote on this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Plybon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Charlie Plybon  
Oregon Policy Manager, Surfrider Foundation

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