Submitter: Tabea Goossen

On Behalf Of:

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water Committee:

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB3580

Dear Co-chair Helm, Co-chair Owens and members of the committee,

Please support HB 3580.

Oregon's important underwater eelgrass meadows are declining. They help our water quality in addition to providing young fish species a habitat, which in turn supports our fishing industry, marine mammals, and seabirds. They also help with climate impacts and carbon sequestration. The biodiversity of these areas is important to maintaining health of the ecosystem.

The Taskforce that this bill would set up would involve appropriate agencies to provide recommendations of actions needed to help restore these meadows before it is too late.

Sincerely, Tabea Goossen