

Submitter: David Sutherland

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3580

I am in strong support of conserving our eelgrass resources and working proactively to restore past eelgrass habitats in our coastal regions. Eelgrass habitats will ensure our coastal waters are resilient, as they act as natural buffers to ocean acidification and hypoxia. They also act as excellent habitat for a diverse range of organisms, including fish. Finally, new research has shown they hold as much carbon per unit area as tropical rainforests, so they are an active way for our state to sequester carbon and reach our climate goals. It's a no brainer to conserve these eelgrass habitats!