

Submitter: Shayne Hayes

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3580

Dear Representatives Ken Helm, Mark Owens, and Committee Members,

Thank you for reviewing this new bill on establishing an Eelgrass Task Force. I'm writing as a resident of Central Point, Oregon. I study environmental policy and strongly support this new initiative to protect our state estuaries at a very reasonable cost of ~200K/year. We are living in an unprecedented time of environmental degradation and the bare minimum we can do is protect the natural resources we have left for our kids and grandkids. Monitoring the health of eelgrass, which is crucial habitat for several coastal species that communities rely on, will allow us to make more informed decisions in future conservation policy.

Please vote YES on HB 3580. Thank you for your time.