

March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade**

**RE: Support for HB2969**

Dear Chair Nguyen, Vice-Chair Diehl, Vice-Chair Isadore, and Members of the Committee,

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for HB 2969. Rondys, Inc. is a family-owned company, originally established in Newport and rooted in the commercial fishing industry. We see the 100 Percent Fish initiative as a forward-thinking pathway to bolster the commercial fishing sector and the coastal communities they supports.

The Iceland Ocean Cluster has demonstrated how full utilization of seafood products can enhance industry value, drive innovation, and revitalize coastal economies. These same principles can be applied on the Oregon Coast, creating new opportunities for commercial fisherman's harvests, including the underutilized and discarded materials or wastes. HB 2969 can provide the frame work for this model, further benefiting coastal communities and the state's economy.

We believe there is still significant potential to capitalize on what is already a premier product—Oregon's seafood. Rondys, Inc. recognizes this growth potential and has made strategic investments in supporting infrastructure, which is a critical need in many coastal communities. Expanding this infrastructure can unlock new market opportunities, improve resource efficiency, and strengthen Oregon's position as a leader in sustainable seafood production.

The 2023 "Oregon Ocean Resources and the Blue Economy Market Analysis" report highlights how marine-based industries, including seafood processing and value-added innovation, are integral to Oregon's future economic resilience. By integrating full utilization strategies like 100 Percent Fish into economic development planning, we can align coastal industry growth with the state's Blue Economy objectives—creating jobs, reducing waste, and increasing the value of Oregon's natural resources.

We ask you to vote YES on HB2969. Oregon has a unique opportunity to lead in seafood innovation, job creation, and sustainable economic development, this is an important step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Evan Hall  
President  
Rondys, Inc.



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