

Testimony in Support of HB 4086

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Pacific Seafood

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

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Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Amy Wentworth and I serve as the Senior Director of Environmental, Health, and Safety and Fisheries Policy for Pacific Seafood. Thank you for the opportunity to share my support of HB 4086.

In 2024, I traveled to Denmark with elected officials and business leaders from Oregon to see how businesses share their byproducts and excess resources to maximize their value and prevent waste – otherwise known as industrial symbiosis.

My experience in Denmark shaped me as a business leader. I saw firsthand how sustainability is not just a concept for driving positive environmental impact, but also a business strategy to drive down costs.

In Clatsop County, we've learned that the circular economic principles at the heart of industrial symbiosis may be a tool to reduce or potentially even solve serious business challenges that are limiting economic growth in the area.

Clatsop County lacks local disposal sites for septic haulers, so they must transport the waste at greater cost across county lines. Local breweries – which attract swarms of tourists each year that support the local economy – are limited in wastewater treatment capacity that curtails their growth.

The seafood industry, which has been a staple of the coastal towns for over a century and has an output of over \$1B in Oregon each year, generates nutrient-rich organic byproducts – a treasure trove of possibilities, as made evident by Icelandic companies and innovators utilizing the 100% Fish business model.

There are other industries and commercial operations in the County that likely have underutilized resources, as well.

This bill will provide technical assistance in Clatsop County (and three other communities across the state) to identify underutilized resources, map them, identify potential projects to maximize value and reduce waste, and outline the next steps toward design, permitting, and construction—positioning the project for private and public investment.

The funding and professional consulting support that comes with this bill are critical to successfully advancing the grassroots efforts that are already happening in Clatsop County.

This is an important bill, and I'm thrilled to promote and support it.