

from the

## OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE BOOMER WRIGHT

## **For Immediate Release**

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Representative Wright Stands with Tribal Leadership, Fishermen Against U.S. Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management Offshore Wind Decision

**SALEM, OR** – Today, Representative Boomer Wright (R- Reedsport) released the following statement after the U.S. Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management <u>finalized two</u> <u>wind energy areas</u> off the coast of Coos Bay and Brookings:

I stand with the Tribal Council of The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw, as well as our local fishing community in their outrage against the recent U.S. Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM) decision.

BOEM has now sent the message that their listening sessions were to check a bureaucratic box, not seek legitimate input from impacted communities. Stakeholders have been provided no assurance surrounding the impact these projects will have on our local fisheries, the environment, or tourism.

In June, Governor Kotek asked the federal agency to pause identifying and leasing these areas so the state could fully evaluate potential impacts on the environment and the economy. But now, despite remaining concerns, the Governor has stated that offshore wind is positively a part of Oregon's future. Do Oregonians want offshore wind as a part of their future? Have we asked them if they want it to be?

Our natural resource industries have been under attack for far too long. I am afraid this is just another attempt to hurt the next generation providing our food supply. I will continue to ask questions until my constituents get the answers they deserve.

Representative Wright serves House District 9 which encompasses the communities of Coos Bay, Charleston, North Bend, Lakeside, Reedsport, Scottsburg, Florence, Mapleton, Triangle Lake, Walton, Noti, Cheshire, Crow, Lorane, and parts of Veneta and Elmira.