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Mason County Community Development, Taylor Shellfish Proposal
615 W. Alder St., Shelton WA, 98584

To the Examiner:

Websters says graft is a noun meaning the acquisition of money or advantage, by dishonest, unfair means through the abuse of one's position or influence in politics, business etc. Mason County is poised to prostitute Oakland Bay on the altar of greed. Why? By Taylor's admission they will assign existing workers to this or only a few. The only entity Taylor Shellfish's plan benefits is Taylor Shellfish. Their plan will do the following:

- 1) Destroy the viewshed. Taylor claims a minimal percentage. The same supposed percentage if DaVinci painted the Mona Lisa with a spider coming out of her nose.
- 2) Diminished value for the residents around the bay, many of whom are retirees
- 3) Diminished tax base for Mason County
- 4) Diminished ability to navigate and enjoy the bay recreationally, especially sailboats with keels.
- 5) Diminished habitat for Salmon, Orcas and other wildlife.
- 6) Destruction of the ecosystem; a single species introduced on this scale in a small bay will gobble nutrients supporting the food chain. All creatures including the priority species of Chum, Chinook, Coho Salmon, Steelheads, Orca, other whales, waterfowl and Bald Eagles depend on it. It will cause deoxygenation of the water which fish and other species are dependent upon to live.
- 7) More & the worst plastic in the ocean. This plastic degrades and ends up as toxicity in fish, mammals and ultimately humans.
- 7) Stink. The gear for this is not infallible. The plastic bags break off, Oysters wash up and die creating a stench. This is lawsuit worthy for the other areas that Taylor Shellfish would compare themselves to, of which the ratio of water to Oysters bears no likeness whatsoever.
- 8) These Oysters will be marinating in Dioxin riddled waters and are banned in China.
- 9) Diminished tourist dollars. Taylor Shellfish has the audacity to say that their industrial aquaculture will be a tourist spot. Would they risk that kind of liability? That's ridiculous. Given options

for vacationing, most will not want to look at an ugly industrial oyster farm or smell dead Oysters either.

Taylor is offering a strip of mud to offset our loss to be accessed via private property. That's ridiculous on its face. Hilary Franz wants to be Governor. She'll take their money even though her mandate is to "sustain & protect the health and productivity of Washington's lands and waters." Taylor isn't adding to the world's bread basket. The food 'challenged' don't have Oysters on their menu.

The Friends of Oakland Bay are proposing a lease for the same area with a goal of educating the public while answering the questions that are blatantly unanswered by this proposal.