



TO: Co-Chair Devlin and Co-Chair Rayfield, Members of the Committee
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

FROM: Jennifer Hudson, Associate Counsel/Governmental and Public Affairs Manager
Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc.

DATE: March 20, 2015

RE: **Support for HB 5018 Department of Environmental Quality Policy Option
Package for Portland Harbor (#124)**

On behalf of Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc., I am pleased to offer this testimony **in support of the Department of Environmental Quality's Policy Option Package for Portland Harbor.**

As a company that has been doing business in and around the Portland Harbor for more than 100 years, Schnitzer welcomes the creation of this dedicated FTE position in the hope that it will assist us and the other 142 entities seeking resolution for the nearly decade-and-a-half-old Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

This appropriation will establish the Portland Harbor Coordinator position, a senior-level policy position that will be housed at DEQ but will report to the Governor's Natural Resources Advisor. This position will represent the Governor's interests and help facilitate state-federal coordination on the Portland Harbor Superfund cleanup.

We are encouraged to know that the Legislature, DEQ and the Governor's office intend to focus resources on the Portland Harbor cleanup. As you know, Portland Harbor was designated a Federal Superfund Site nearly 15 years ago, and since then numerous studies and analysis have been conducted at a cost of over \$100 million. EPA currently expects to complete the final Feasibility Study by the end of 2015, so now is the perfect time for the state to fully engage. The State, in particular Governor Brown, will have an important role in determining the final remedy. The decisions made over the next couple of years on the precise terms that make up final remedy will have a lasting effect not only on the environment, but also on the region's economy for years to come.

Today, the areas surrounding Portland Harbor provide more than 40,000 valuable high-paying, middle-class jobs. The Portland Harbor contributes \$1 billion to the local economy annually. It is going to take strong partnerships and a dedication to preserving both the environment and sustaining the State and region's economy to ensure these jobs exist for the next 100 years.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this important funding package. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc.

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