



February 1, 2016

Rep. Phil Barnhardt, Chair
House Committee on Revenue
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Port of Portland Testimony in Support of HB 4084

Dear Chair Barnhardt,

The Port of Portland (Port) supports passage of HB 4084, a bill authorizing local governments, including Ports, the ability to adopt programs providing property tax incentives to landowners for cleanup of contaminated, brownfield sites. Redeveloping brownfields is a central component of the Port's regional economic development mission.

The Port is pleased to be part of the statewide coalition supporting the creation of additional methods to support brownfield redevelopment. Ports are significant economic development drivers in Oregon, often working in partnership with the local communities they represent. With Oregon's land use laws encouraging compact development within UGBs, brownfield redevelopment is a necessity for creating jobs and vibrant and healthy communities.

These sites, often used for industrial purposes, are critical as they yield middle-income jobs with excellent tax return. This type of incentive can help offset risks and costs of brownfield cleanup, especially for complex industrial sites that would otherwise remain polluted.

The Port supports the addition of property tax incentives as another tool in our brownfield redevelopment toolkit.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Williams
State Affairs Manager
Port of Portland