



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 12, 2016

Capitol Construction Committee Members

Dear Colleagues:

I'm writing to request your support for an important issue facing the north Oregon coast, where the fishing industry is the economic lifeblood of the community and hundreds of good-paying jobs are at stake.

It's been more than two years since a massive fire destroyed one of the region's most important fishing processing facilities and docks in the city of Warrenton.

While the processing plant has maintained makeshift operations at an old airport hangar at Tongue Point, we are reaching a critical juncture in the effort to retain the city's largest employer in a region still trying to claw back from the recession.

I'm sure you'll agree that we need to do all we can to support Oregon's rural communities. The Legislature's investment in Warrenton will protect as many as 140 full-time and 100 seasonal jobs. It will create local construction jobs, restore a critical delivery point for local independent commercial fishing vessels, and support related local businesses that are some of the best in the community.

I mentioned that we're at a critical juncture. That's because the temporary lease at Tongue Point expires early next year, so the company must either begin rebuilding immediately or relocate operations to other facilities outside of Oregon.

The North Coast needs your help today to ensure the processing plant and dock remain accessible to the local fishing fleet, as they have been since 1940s.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Rep. Deborah Boone

