

HB 2902 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/3, 5/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes ports to acquire, construct, maintain and operate shipyards.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Background on shipbuilding facility at Port of Toledo
- Private enterprise competing against governments
- Reliance of coastal economy on ship repair facilities
- Example of Port of Coos Bay taking over operation of rail line
- Amount of work done by port employees rather than contractors

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

[-1 amendment] Clarifies that a port may only operate a facility to construct watercraft if the port's board of commissioners first determines by resolution that there is a public need to do so and that no private-sector business is reasonable able and willing to do so.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's system of 23 public ports play an important role in helping Oregon products begin their journeys to markets throughout the world. Nine ports are on the Columbia River system, including the deep-water ports of Astoria, St. Helens and Portland, while 14 ports are on the Oregon coast.

A shipyard is a facility where There are currently five Oregon ports, all on the coast, that own shipyards.

HOUSE VOTE: 48-11