

From: [Jed Cohen](#)
To: [JCT Exhibits](#)
Subject: Strong opposition to HB 2284
Date: Monday, April 22, 2019 10:32:40 AM

Dear Representative Beyer and McKeown;

My name is Jed Cohen and I am a captain on the commercial fishing vessel Perseverance. My vessel's home port is Newport, OR and we currently tie up and use the Newport International Terminal for months out of every year for boat repairs, gear repairs and general maintenance. The Perseverance is one of many Newport based vessel's that rely on the many services that the locally controlled Port of Newport currently offer.

I am very concerned that if our region loses control of the Port of Newport to the State of Oregon that a disconnect will certainly happen that will negatively affect not only my vessel and the local families it supports, but the many locally based vendors that rely on the locally operated Port of Newport for a bulk of their business.

The uniquely positioned vicinity of the port of Newport to the Pacific Ocean and Highway 20 provide many opportunities for economic growth and stability that will benefit the entire Oregon Coast for decades to come. I truly believe that nobody understands the unique challenges of marine related commerce on the Central Oregon Coast better than the local women and men who live, work and raise their family's in and around the current Newport Port District.

I worry that the shift of local control of the Port of Newport to State control will lead to a one size fits all shift in economic priorities. I feel strongly that each port district in the State of Oregon is unique based on geographic , socioeconomic and environmental constraints. Nobody is better qualified to lead a port district than the people who live and work there on a daily basis.

Thank you for your time and consideration in opposing HB 2284.

Sincerely,

Jed Cohen
Captain
F/V Perseverance
Newport OR