

Submitter: Beverly Segner
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3382

To the Members of the House Committee on Rules,

As a Coos County resident and property owner for over 40 years, I have a vested interest in urging you to oppose advancing HB 3382. This bill is designed to circumvent the land use planning laws that have been so vital for balancing development in Oregon with protecting our natural resources and the environment. Could this be any more important now as we face the reality of climate change? This is especially critical in the coastal area of Oregon. Please do not be misled by those who paint Coos County as a wasteland of joblessness and despair. Nothing could be further from the truth. As a clinical social worker, I am profoundly familiar with the social problems we continually struggle to address, but be assured, giving the Port of Coos Bay carte blanche to dredge the bay is NOT a viable solution, Industrialization in the old way is not the answer.

In my opinion, the Port has a dismal track record for succumbing to the siren song of outside corporations seeking to fill their coffers at the expense of our quality of life. How many cities in Oregon can claim good air quality almost every day? Vibrant fisheries supporting families and providing recreation for thousands each year?

It should be clear that the land use process, including public input and testimony, is necessary to temper our Port's willingness to ignore or attempt to avoid the impact of expert, scientific impact on their plans, A perfect example of this would be the defunct JCEP which many local government officials supported (some of whom are not testifying in favor of HB 3382(and was defeated in large part because our land use planning process protects and insists that the people be allowed to participate. Is it a small wonder that HB 3382 has been brought forth?

Please do not take away our right to participate, Any truly worthy project needs to and will survive public scrutiny, HB 3382 is simply put, an end run to exempt the public process, It does not deserve further consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Beverly Segner LCSW
40 year Coos County Resident