

Submitter: Annie Merrill
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB3382

It is shocking that this bill is being seriously considered in a public hearing, as it is obviously unjust and undermines the legitimacy of local land-use laws. Ports—just like every government entity or private company—should not be allowed to bypass the public process or state and federal land-use and consistency laws to advance their development agendas. Ports often do not represent the interests of the people, nor are they elected officials held accountable to the people. Therefore, it is not lawful for ports to be exempt from land-use laws that protect the interests of the community and the natural resources they depend on. The estuaries that would be affected by this bill are carefully planned and managed in an inter-agency coordinated effort that balances resource conservation with resource use. It would be a dangerous precedent to allow ports to bypass these comprehensive plans and it would render the hard work, funding, and thoughtful planning efforts that preceded these plans, as futile. Please shut down this bill.