

Submitter: Jed Kaul  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB3382

Greetings,

I am writing to voice my opposition to HB 3382. Ports should not be exempt from the land use rules that make Oregon the best state in the union to live in. In Florence, where I grew up, we have seen the port board make decisions benefiting special interests that many people questioned. This is a small port without large ships or even a fishing fleet. If larger Ports, with international shipping and fishing corporations operating out of them, were free to increase dredging and develop their properties without essential oversight from land use rules and committees, the results could be disastrous to the common good of residents of Oregon. Some of the key ways that land use rules protect the common good and relate to Port actions include: public involvement requirements in decisions, environmental zoning to protect in-water, riparian and upland habitat, protections for floodplains and wetlands, protections for Oregon's coastal zone, zoning restrictions to protect adjacent communities, dredging and dredge disposal regulations. Without these rules Ports could be free to make decisions based solely on financial gain reaped by corporations and other special interests. Please reconsider this bill!

Jed Kaul. Eugene