

March 13, 2023

I write to protest against a measure before the Oregon Legislature's Joint Committee on Transportation: **House Bill (HB) 3382**. In summary, I believe this legislation would pose significant threats to Oregon's environment and to local communities, and it therefore **MUST** be abandoned.

It's my understanding that HB 3382 would affect deep-channel construction activities that might occur in the future at ports in Astoria, St. Helens, Portland, Newport, and Coos Bay. Essentially, it would allow these ports to bypass important state and local land-use laws when building, maintaining, or expanding their infrastructure. This would ignore statewide land-use planning goals - and the rules developed to make sure they remain in place. The bill would also nullify local communities' voices, and their ability to make their own decisions about water and land connected to the five ports.

This is the opposite of what our legislature **should be** doing. The Oregon House and Senate have traditionally advocated for local-community rights and environmental protection around the state. Examples are supporting public involvement, protecting Oregon's coastal areas (and the Willamette River) in a natural condition, and in general, by passing rules/regulations designed to enhance the livability of ALL communities, even in places where the \$\$\$ lure of commerce could quickly ruin all of this!

Of course, industry and jobs are important here, as they are everywhere. But there needs to be a carefully honed balance between economic development and Oregon maintaining its unique focus nationally on empowering community voices and protecting/enhancing the environment. HB 3382 is the kind of measure one might expect in Texas, Louisiana, or Florida - but not here.

Interestingly, I have read that the Port of Portland doesn't support HB 3382. That should tell you something.

In sum, HB 3382 goes against what we have long stood for in Oregon. I urge the House Joint Committee on Transportation to take this bill to Pembina Propane or W. Hayden Is. - and burn it up! (Never to see the light of day again.)

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