

Submitter: K Davis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB3382

Please do not pass HB 3382! This bill would weaken Oregon's integrated Coastal Management Program under the Coastal Zone Management Act which has served for over half a century to balance protection and development; and it conflicts with Oregon's Climate Goals by removing critical protections for estuaries, which sequester carbon much more efficiently than forests and serve as key species nurseries.

Estuaries are nurseries for a wide variety of fish and wildlife species, including our iconic salmon. Eel grass that would be destroyed is essential habitat for many species and functions to improve water quality to support ocean health. Oregon's estuaries support tens of thousands of migratory shorebirds and waterfowl. We all know that we are losing bird species at an alarming rate. We have to protect them and their habitats.

Do not allow corporate interests to bypass Oregon's environmental protection laws. We cannot afford that. It is time to protect, preserve and cherish what is left, before it is too late.