

Submitter: Ken Bonetti  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB3382

Dear members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Ken Bonetti from North Bend, Oregon. I wrote earlier about HB 3382. Reps Mannix and Pham responded. Thank you. I am writing again to express my strongest possible opposition to the Port Exemption Bill, HB 3382. In what would be a tragic reversal of decades of state and local land use progress, HB 3382 would enable major deep-water ports in Oregon to bypass essential land use and environmental regulations for the sake of fast-tracking extensive dredging and channel modification. This bill sets a extremely dangerous precedent, enabling certain corporations or industries to bypass the critical regulations that are in place to ensure our estuaries continue to support our local coastal ecosystems, important local economies like crabbing and fishing, and many other uses of the bay by coastal residents.

Coos Bay is a valuable preserve of flora and fauna that are already well diminished from the quantity and quality of the original habitat. The blasting and continuous dredging that would be required to create and maintain a 45' draft would destroy or damage much of what is left. That is why the industry wants the exemption. I am deeply disturbed that the Oregon legislature is entertaining such an outrageous request.

Most importantly, I am asking you to stand with South Coast communities and Oregonians across the state in opposition to the Port Exemption Bill. Please vote no on HB 3382, regardless of amendments supposedly narrowing the application of the exemption, and urge your colleagues to oppose this incredibly bad bill.

Sincerely,  
Ken Bonetti  
North Bend, OR