



Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

Subject: Coalition Support for OBDD POP 101 and POP 102 Funding Requests for Terminal 6 at the Port of Portland – Lottery Bond Bill HB 5531

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Nosse, and members of the committee:

Our organizations proudly represent Oregon's agriculture and natural resource industries in every county across the state. We write to express our support for **lottery bond funding for POP 101 and POP 102 in the GRB for the Oregon Business Development Department**. Both packages ensure the continued viability and competitiveness of our agricultural exports through Terminal 6 at the Port of Portland.

T6 has been a crucial node in our export chain, especially for specialty crops and other agricultural goods that feed people across the United States and around the world. We cannot stress the importance of T6 receiving meaningful, long-term infrastructure investments from the state.

#### **POP 101: Lower Columbia River Dredging**

The requested \$15.16 million in lottery bond funding supports the costs associated with the Lower Columbia River Channel Management Plan. Maintaining the channel ensures continued navigation operations for the 50 million plus tons of cargo moved annually — supporting countless businesses and tens of thousands of jobs. The river is a critical transportation route for goods moving in and out of Oregon.

The Port of Portland is Oregon's only port tasked with dredging to keep the Lower Columbia River deep and wide enough for ships to safely and efficiently navigate — which benefits ports from Astoria to Umatilla, and communities throughout the Columbia-Snake River System.

#### **POP 102: Port Capital Improvement**

Terminal 6 serves as Oregon's primary container terminal, playing a vital role in our supply chain, global trade access, and job creation. Without the requested \$20.2 million in lottery bonds for necessary capital improvements, the facility faces a real risk of closure, which would have far-reaching economic consequences for businesses and industries across the state. House Bill 3050 will allow the department to address known capital needs at T6 prioritized in the governor's budget.

The funds requested will help address crucial infrastructure maintenance needs, including the repair of cranes, pavements, and docks. Additionally, this will establish a broader program to provide financial assistance to Oregon port districts that handle cargo containers, ensuring that not only T6 but also other active container ports, such as the planned Pacific Coast Intermodal Port Project in Coos Bay, can receive necessary support. Investing in these improvements will sustain critical maritime commerce and protect thousands of Oregon jobs.

We urge your consideration of these critical investments and encourage the Subcommittee's support to maintain and enhance Oregon's port infrastructure.