

June 23, 2025

Senator Mark Meek, Chair
Senate Finance and Revenue Committee
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Comments on HB 2725A

Chair Meek, Vice-Chair McLane, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2725A. The Port of Morrow has long relied on Oregon's innovative economic development tools to attract investment, create jobs, and build out critical infrastructure.

In 2023, the Legislature passed HB 2009, which for the first time allowed public ports to participate in SIP agreements. That change was intentional and important—it recognized the key role ports play in supporting Oregon's economy. In Morrow County, SIP and enterprise zones have helped transform our region's economic landscape and the Port of Morrow is grateful to be included among the entities eligible to participate in SIP agreements.

HB 2725 was introduced to fix a specific issue raised by the City of Hillsboro, where the Port of Portland's multi-county boundaries include areas where they are not responsible for economic development. We appreciate that HB 2725A, as passed by the House, addresses that situation without pulling back the broader access to SIP that ports across the state now have.

The amended bill would allow ports east of Bonneville Dam to use SIP district-wide, while ports west of Bonneville Dam may use SIP only for projects located on port-owned property. This approach acknowledges the different geographic and operational realities of ports across Oregon and ensures that SIP remains a viable and flexible tool statewide.

We appreciate the Legislature's continued recognition of the important role that public ports play in advancing Oregon's economic future and ask for your support for HB 2725A as passed by the House.

Sincerely,



Mark Patton
Chief Operations Officer, Port of Morrow