COLUMBIA RIVER PILOTS

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April 4, 2017

Representative Caddy McKeown, Chairperson and Members House Committee On Transportation Policy Oregon State Legislature Salem, Oregon

Re: Support for House Bill 2749 to study the feasibility of replacing the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge

Dear Chair McKeown and members of the Committee:

The Columbia River Pilots are supportive of HB 2949. We appreciate your consideration of this legislation that would allow the Oregon Department of Transportation study replacing the bridge that extends from Hood River to White Salmon.

A new bridge could reduce the potential hazards posed by the bridge in its current state. Moving freight under the bridge, we recognize the design makes the movement of goods by barge more treacherous then necessary. We would encourage any new bridge proposed be designed to improve the situation for waterway navigation.

OR RICK GILL

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2749.

Captain Rick Gill

President of the Columbia River Pilots