



February 23, 2021

To: Chair Lively and Members of the House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity

From: Ivo Trummer, State Affairs Manager, Port of Portland

Re: Port of Portland Supports HB 2820

Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

The Port of Portland was founded by the Oregon Legislature in 1891. We've gone through plenty of changes in the last 130 years, adapting to the needs of our region. Today, we are the largest holder of industrial land in Oregon, manage four marine terminals and two general aviation airports, and operate Portland International Airport, or PDX. Much of our operation is located in East Multnomah County.

The Port of Portland urges you to support HB 2820 – the *Prosperity 1000* Act. HB 2820 will create an innovative program that leverages federal dollars to provide job training and support for 1,000 Oregonians in economically distressed communities in Oregon. COVID-19 has impacted thousands of low-income workers, and HB 2820 will target critical job training resources, including job placement, into the communities that have been hit the hardest by the pandemic: communities of color, low-income communities, and women.

HB 2820 will create a pilot program targeting the persistent economic inequities in Multnomah County. It is important to note that the historic economic inequities and persistent investment needs in East Multnomah County, as compared to the rest of Multnomah County, are somewhat hidden behind the *aggregate* economic data for all of Multnomah County. While aggregate economic indexes make Multnomah County one of the most prosperous counties in Oregon, *East* Multnomah County continues to be one of Oregon's most economically distressed regions. HB 2820 will leverage federal funds to areas like East Multnomah County and will create an innovative program that could be easily expanded in future years.

The Port of Portland is actively focused on building more shared prosperity for our region – bringing more jobs and benefits to groups who have often been left behind, especially historically underserved communities like East Multnomah County. Statewide, there is much more need for such a program than the 1,000 Oregonians who will be served by HB 2820 and we hope that the program will be scaled up by the Oregon Legislature in future years. We urge you to support HB 2820.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ivo Trummer  
State Affairs Manager  
[Ivo.Trummer@portofportland.com](mailto:Ivo.Trummer@portofportland.com)  
503-869-1282