

To: House Rules Committee
Re: HB3382

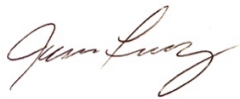
HB3382 “Authorizes certain ports to construct, maintain and improve deep draft navigation channel improvements without demonstrating compliance with state or local land use law.”

As an Oregon citizen, participating in all elections with extensive effort to research all issues, candidates, and commenting on various bills presented to the state legislature, never have I seen a more dangerous bill as HB3382. It goes against what people in this state expect of good governance. This bill has been surreptitiously entered into the legislative stream with little regard to public concern. Even the Port of Coos Bay’s Commissioners didn’t know of it until a local citizen brought it up at meeting of the Commissioners just after it was proposed. There is no concerted community chorus for more dredging of our estuary for capital gain and the ever/over-used call for jobs. The current effort to install a container terminal is a grandiose scheme of a mid-western development & warehousing company, not a maritime shipping expert. The Port’s own consultant studies, show specious economic results in such a scheme to move large amount of goods to and from this port, especially with a rail structure that needs billions of dollars to upgrade to proper standards. Then, there doesn’t seem to be a list of suppliers to export certain goods lined up in support of this facility.

I am a member of the Ocean Policy Advisory Council, which “is a legislatively mandated marine policy advisory body to provide, among other statutory charges, advice to the Governor, state agencies and local governments on ocean policy and resource management matters (ORS 196.433).” Its charge is the territorial sea, which, unfortunately, doesn’t include coastal estuaries. If it did, there would be ample public oversight of the decisions made through this stake-holder comprised group.

The lack of public input by design of this bill is a main objection. To allow such a bill through will no doubt encourage more such end runs around sound land use laws in our state.

Please oppose this bill,



Jamie Fereday