

Submitter: Donna Bonetti
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3382

I am very concerned about HB 3382. It sets a bad precedent to adopt any bill that would erode local and state ordinances. It could be used to over-ride important environmental protections, local zoning and development planning. I understand it might allow deep dredging to facilitate port plans in Coos Bay and other estuaries. This could have huge environmental costs. It would damage the ocean bed in the bay hurting salmon fisheries, oyster fisheries, clam beds and crabbing areas. This would have a huge economic impact on the commercial fishermen who depend on healthy ecosystems and abundant fish to make their living. Tourists also come to our bay for recreational fishing. If the bay is degraded for fishing the local economy would lose money as the tourists go elsewhere for fishing, lodging and dining. Local tribes also have fishing rights and their rights would be degraded if the fisheries experience decline.

I am also very concerned that bringing huge cargo ships into this bay might cause serious environmental problems. The scrubbers used to mitigate ship's air pollution simply put the same pollution into the water where it is also a hazardous waste. I have also checked out the economics of port areas and most large ports are not helping the local residents to prosper but ports tend to be built in poor areas and most of the revenue goes outside the communities. We do not need or want that here. There is talk about jobs but the most modern ports are highly mechanized and automated so that the few associated jobs would mostly be for highly trained technical people probably from other areas.

Please vote no on this very dangerous proposed bill!