



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

March 14, 2023

To: **Co-Chairs Sen. Gorsek and Rep. McLain and [Members of the Committee](#)**
[Joint Committee on Transportation](#)

Re: **[HB 3382](#) – Allowing Certain Ports to Subvert Oregon’s Land Use and Water Laws, including Federal Consistency under the Coastal Zone Management Act – OPPOSE**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has engaged in land use legislation since 1959 and supports our current land use planning program with its 19 Goals. We also have positions in support of the Clean Water Act and protection of Oregon’s waters of the state. In the League’s [Water in Oregon-Not a Drop to Waste](#) study, we note *Section 305(b) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 USC 1315 requires states to report on the extent to which all navigable waters meet water quality standards.* Should this bill pass, it may place our waters in violation.

We support regulations protecting Oregon’s estuaries and other important coastal areas—areas special to Oregon. In 2012 we updated our coastal positions after publishing [Coastal and Nearshore Oregon: Using and Protecting Our Natural Resources](#). We also have strong positions on addressing our climate emergency. It is with these positions that **we ask the committee not to move HB 3382 out of committee.**

HB 3382 removes all protections in and around the five ports listed in this bill: Astoria, Coos Bay, Newport, Portland and St. Helens: ports specified in subsection (2) of this section may construct, maintain and improve deep draft navigation channel improvements, including docks and similar berthing facilities...

Oregonians expect their elected leaders to support processes that allow public participation and processes that protect Oregon’s special places. **This bill says that local elected leaders and the public who engaged in *Comprehensive Plans, specifically Estuary Management Plans, other planning and zoning requirements and related regulations adopted by a local government...no longer matter.* We implore this committee to reject this concept, oppose this bill and stand up for Oregon.**

Page 3 (page 5 of web version) of the League’s coastal study linked above explains the CZMA:

*The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972...established a voluntary program of coastal management. Coastal states are encouraged to develop programs which are then reviewed and approved by the Secretary of Commerce through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). When the plan is approved, a state is eligible to receive federal matching grants to assist in administering the plan. **Once approved, state plans become the management program within that state’s boundaries, and all federal policies and actions must be consistent with any mandatory provisions of the state program.***

Each Federal agency activity within or outside the coastal zone that affects any land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone shall be carried out in a manner which is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of approved State management programs.

In 1977, Oregon's Coastal Management Program was the second state program to be approved by NOAA.

We urge your Opposition to HB 3382 and support protection of Oregon's estuaries and waterways.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.



Rebecca Gladstone
President LWVOR



Peggy Lynch
Natural Resources Coordinator

CC: [Brenda Bateman](#), Director, Department of Land Conservation and Development
[Vicki Walker](#), Director, Department of State Lands
[Curt Melcher](#), Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife
[Leah Feldon](#), Director, Department of Environmental Quality