

Submitter: Amy Williams  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB3382

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing you in opposition to HB 3382.

To allow “certain ports to construct, maintain and improve deep draft navigation channel improvements without demonstrating compliance with state or local land use law” is reckless and shortsighted.

Seriously, at this juncture in human history, who thinks ANY “unmonitored” construction or improvements in ANY fragile coastal environment is a good idea?

HB 3382 prioritizes unfettered and unmonitored “improvements” ahead of the consideration of, and preservation of, estuary ecosystems, and dismisses the importance of the various birds, fish and other creatures that live in and around these ports.

Land use laws are in place to prevent ecological destruction, and to make sure “improvements” are made safely and wisely.

You should be legislating for MORE oversight of human impact on estuaries and other environments, not less. Start placing the environment first, not last. Remember humans are part of nature, not above nature, and certainly not in control of nature.

Please take a few moments to review readily available research and information regarding the drastic changes occurring along our beautiful Oregon Coast. Call NOAA, OSU, the Oregon Aquarium and find how important it is to monitor our coast’s ecosystems, instead of allowing “unmonitored” human activity to permanently alter the health of our estuaries.

It sounds as if the authors of HB 3382 could benefit from learning a refresher from the aforementioned sources.