

March 14, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

During the 1990's I served as the Environmental Affairs Manager at the Port of Portland. We worked judiciously to adhere to environmental and safety requirements and change our image from anti-environment to a port that adheres to laws and regulations, both federal and state. And in so doing, we reduced conflict with agencies, our neighbors, and partnered with many organizations on several environmental projects.

Ports, by their nature, engage in activities that have the potential to harm the environment and harm those who live nearby as well as the wildlife which depend on clean water, clean sediments, and clean air. There are environmental laws at both the federal and state levels which protect us from harmful contaminants and protect our water, soil, air, and health.

HB 3382 is a throwback to a bygone era that will only harm the gains made. It's unbelievable that in 2023, we have a bill that does nothing to advance Ports (let's not forget Federal environmental laws, subsequent lawsuits, adverse public health, livability failures etc.). There are 23 ports in the Oregon Public Ports Association, with a common mission to "facilitate member collaboration, public agency communication, legislative advocacy, and effective management to ensure the success of Oregon ports". Environmental laws and regulations have long been the favorite "distraction" of some ports. It avoids the question of "effective management to ensure success".

Each port in Oregon is unique - and some ports have prospered by effectively taking advantage of local business opportunities. It's not environmental regulation that gets in the way of success. Environmental regulations have been with us for more than 70 years. While some ports thrive, others have chosen different paths. And HB 3382 is a path that leads us in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

*Katherine Futornick*

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