

Submitter: Kristin ConradAntoville  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB3382

Dear members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

Thank you for your work during this legislative session. I am writing to express my opposition to the Port Dredging Exemption Bill, HB 3382. HB 3382 enables major deepwater ports in Oregon to bypass essential land use and environmental regulations for the sake of fast-tracking extensive dredging and channel modification. This bill sets a dangerous precedent, jeopardizing the health of some of the most ecologically important and sensitive waterways in our state. It would also have a negative impact on local coastal economies including oyster aquaculture, crabbing, and fishing. Please vote no on HB 3382.

This bill dramatically expands the list of entities that can apply for expanded dredging in fragile estuary habitat where freshwater from rivers or streams flow into salt water from the ocean. The types of dredging activities targeted by this bill include blasting bedrock to dramatically expand navigation channels on a scale that could fundamentally alter the tidal circulation and sediment dynamics of an entire estuary. This bill would jeopardize ongoing efforts to update Oregon's estuary management plans, with direct impacts to fragile coastal ecosystems so important for wildlife, migratory birds, as well as Oregon's economically important fisheries

Thank you for your time and attention to this urgent matter.

Kristin Conrad-Antoville