

TO: Co-Chair McClain, Co-Chair Frederick, and members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Bittin Duggan, I live at 725 S. 5th St, in Coos Bay, 97420. My family has only lived in Coos County for 18 years and we have witnessed and learned the value of a “fisherman’s” lifestyle to support their families, respect the waterways and aquatic populations, as well as the role of fishing in this area for the global economy.

I oppose HB3382-4 because the Port of Coos Bay MUST NOT disrespect current laws in place that protect our precious and essential environment, for the sake of corporate businesses. The native lands here need to be respected. We are enacting other means to increase our economy. We need better housing and training jobs.

The Coos Bay Estuary, and many estuaries across the state of Oregon are essential for not only the live creatures and plants living there, and also coastal economies. For generations, Coos Bay’s economy has depended on industries such as shellfish production, fishing, recreation, and tourism—all of which will be negatively impacted if the major Ports and private industry are allowed to bypass critical environmental protections that are part of Oregon’s land use laws.

If passed, HB 3382 WILL erode the essential functions of coastal estuary management plans across the state, such as the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan, which are currently being updated through the Oregon Coastal Management Program.

When there are proposals for large scale channel modifications that would impact our local economies that depend on the bay, IT IS ESSENTIAL that they go through the existing land use process.

If passed, HB 3382-3 sets a dangerous statewide precedent for other industries to ask for similar exemptions from Oregon’s land use goals, which puts our local economies and rural communities at risk.

Instead of creating shortcuts for corporate profits, coastal communities are urging Oregon legislators to vote no on HB 3382-4 to sustain the local industries at the heart of Oregon’s coastal economies.

Thank you for making the most respectful vote - vote for humanity and the environment - do not let corporate money sway your vote, as may be urged by the Coos Bay Port Authority.

Thank you! In Peace and Respect for All,

Bittin Foster Duggan

CHW, MA, BFA