

February 3, 2025

Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek
Members of the Joint Transportation Committee
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek & Members of the Joint Transportation Committee:

The Oregon Public Ports Association (OPPA) represents all 23 public ports in the State of Oregon. The OPPA supports HB 3050, which would establish a Port Capital Improvement Fund with the Infrastructure Finance Authority administering the fund.

Our membership is diverse both in size and in geography. Members stretch from the Southern Coast at the Port of Brookings Harbor, north to the Port of Astoria and then east approximately 190 river miles along the Columbia River to the Port of Umatilla. Together, Oregon's public ports employ directly, indirectly and induce over 101,300 jobs in our state generating nearly \$600 million annually in state and local taxes.

Our membership fully supports Governor Kotek and the Port of Portland's efforts to maintain and grow containerized shipping in Oregon. Farmers, ranchers, and business of all types rely on Terminal 6 to access national and internation markets. And without well maintained infrastructure that can quickly and efficiently serve the ships calling on Terminal 6, our ability to compete in a highly competitive international shipping industry will suffer.

Establishment of this fund will also hopefully enable the state to assist other ports with containerized shipping. For example, the Pacific Coast Intermodal Port Project at the Port of Coos Bay and other ports that provide container service along the Columbia River could benefit from the establishment of this fund.

The Port of Portland's challenges are not unique. Many of our ports face similar infrastructure related challenges. Recently, several of our members have reported a doubling and tripling of dredging related costs. Simply put, many of our smaller ports are struggling to keep up with basic maintenance of their facilities like dredging, docks, sea walls, and marinas.

Our membership supports the passage of HB 3050 establishing the Port Capital Improvement Fund and encourages the membership of this committee to support the Governor's proposed \$20 million investment in a capital program for the Port of Portland and T-6.

Thank you for your consideration of these remarks.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Landauer

**Executive Director** 

Oregon Public Ports Association