



Public Works Service Area
City of Portland
Priya Dhanapal, Deputy City Administrator



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND
working for clean rivers



March 13, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the committee,

On behalf of the City of Portland, I am writing today to express our strong support for House Bill 2981 and the -2 amendment. Portland has been a leader in recognizing the impacts invasive species pose to our infrastructure, both grey and green, and has addressed these impacts with municipal policy and as an active partner with state and federal agencies. House Bill 2981 and the -2 amendment will assist the city in both coordinating with state partners and further safeguarding Portland and region's environment and infrastructure that are critical to water quality and human health.

Portland's 2020-2030 Invasive Species Strategy and Watershed Management Plan recognize the impacts of aquatic invasive species on both healthy habitats and critical grey infrastructure for water and wastewater conveyance and treatment. To that end, the City of Portland is a foundational member of the Columbia Basin Dreissenid Monitoring Program in the Portland metro area and welcomes the ability to further safeguard the state and Portland's waters, infrastructure, and associated habitats. Invasive aquatic organisms put critical water quality treatment infrastructure at significant risk of significantly increased maintenance costs and failure.

The City of Portland was a member of the Oregon Invasive Species Council while the state watercraft inspection program was being developed and the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund was devised. As noted above, Portland has already taken proactive steps to be a municipal leader in aquatic invasive species early detection and abatement of invasive species risks and impacts to protect human health and the environment.

For these reasons and more, we encourage you to vote yes on HB 2981 and the -2 amendment.

Thank you,

Priya Dhanapal
Deputy City Administrator
Portland Public Works Service Area



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