



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of SB 2

Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal, and World Affairs
March 2025

Chair Manning, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2. As a legislator representing Oregon's coastal communities, I recognize the unique challenges we face in emergency preparedness and disaster response. The Salvage Chief is a one-of-a-kind asset with an established history of providing critical support in times of crisis, and its restoration is a matter of both practical necessity and economic foresight.

The request before us is straightforward: a \$3 million investment to restore and modernize a vessel that has already proven its worth. This is not a theoretical project—it is a strategic move to strengthen Oregon's emergency response capabilities on our waterways, particularly in light of the ongoing risk of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. In an event of that magnitude, infrastructure failures will leave our coastal and river communities cut off, and the Salvage Chief would be one of the few assets capable of immediate response, delivering power, water, and emergency aid where it is needed most.

Beyond disaster response, the Salvage Chief serves as an invaluable training platform for the next generation of mariners and emergency responders. Investing in this vessel means investing in workforce development, preparedness, and the long-term resilience of our maritime economy. This is a cost-effective solution—restoring an existing vessel rather than attempting to replace it at exponentially higher costs down the road.

This is a practical, fiscally responsible decision that will enhance Oregon's emergency readiness while preserving a key piece of our maritime history. I urge your support for SB 2.

Thank you.

Representative Cyrus Javadi
Oregon House District 32