



March 25, 2025

Co-Chairs Susan McLain and Chris Gorsek  
Joint Transportation Committee  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR. 97310

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

The Oregon Public Ports Association (OPPA) represents all 23 public ports in the State of Oregon. The OPPA would like to express its support of SB 361 which would provide funding to several ports to assist them in paying for some important dredging projects that will need to be undertaken in the coming year. I would also like to thank Senator Brock Smith for introducing this measure.

Ports have limited revenue streams and with increasing storm activity our ports are struggling to keep up with their dredging projects due in part to the dramatically escalating costs. Each project must go through a lengthy, complicated, and expensive permitting process which includes oftentimes finding upland disposal sites, and expensive mitigation requirements. Compounding the expense of this work has been the dramatic increase in costs for dredging in recent years. For example, a dredging project that cost approximately \$350,000 in 2017 was estimated to cost \$1.2 million in 2023 and we continue to see those costs escalate.

The funding contained in this measure and the dash one amendment represents 50% of the anticipated costs for the dredging projects for each of the ports listed. Furthermore, the ports listed either already have their permits in hand or are nearing completion of the permitting process.

Thank you again for hearing SB 361 and we ask that you move this measure to the Ways and Means Committee for their consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Landauer".

Mark Landauer  
Executive Director  
Oregon Public Ports Association