



# *Port of Brookings Harbor*

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## **Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction**

### **Measure: SB 5531**

### **Written Testimony from Port Manager, Travis Webster**

**May 9, 2025**

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Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.

The Port of Brookings Harbor is seeking state assistance to finalize a critical project for the fishing industry: the establishment of a publicly owned wastewater treatment plant. The Port has secured 84% of the required funding but is seeking an additional \$700,000 to complete the project.

This facility is critical to maintaining 30 jobs at the processing plant, creating marine employment on fishing vessels, and establishing local offloading opportunities for the fishing fleet. Commercial fishing is a cornerstone of the region's current economic base. It is vital to the success of the maritime industry in Southern Oregon. The wastewater treatment plant is essential infrastructure that will remove pollutants before discharging back into the environment. This will secure the future of the processing plant and support business growth and job creation in Curry County, strengthening the regional economy.

The Environmental Protection Agency and National Marine Fisheries Service (EPA\NMFS) are currently reviewing the project, with their assessment expected to conclude shortly. Additionally, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) permitting process should be completed this year. The procurement phase is set to begin early next year, followed by the commencement of construction. The project is anticipated to be completed by early 2027, subject to all factors proceeding as planned.

Thank you, Co-Chairs and Members of the committee, for considering the needs of our community.

Travis Webster - POBH