

Submitter: Nate Stokes
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3963
June 16th, 2025

To: Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham,

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, members of the committee,

International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 701 represents 3,500 members in the State of Oregon. With the changing environment we are searching out all opportunities to put our members and our apprentices to work. As we are building onshore wind and solar farms in eastern Oregon we see this as another opportunity.

IUOE Local 701 testifies in support of HB 3963 which would extend the timeline legislatively-mandated offshore wind roadmap report. The roadmap has brought together a diverse set of stakeholders that includes labor, fishing, tribes, climate, environmental justice, tourism, and elected officials as part of a roadmap to review and make recommendation on a potential "Oregon Way" approach to offshore wind that:

- Aims to protect fish and wildlife
- Protect view-sheds
- Protect fishing and related industry
- Create local union jobs in construction, port, transmission, and supply chain
- Protect Oregon ratepayers
- Generates new revenue for the state
- And advance climate resiliency measures

Despite BOEM's announcement to stop the lease-auction for OSW off the Oregon coast, this work is still important for how potential future projects could be done responsibly, address Oregon's climate resiliency goals, and create good quality union jobs.

Respectfully,
Nate Stokes
Assistant Business Manager