

February 4, 2026

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Port of Portland Testimony in support of HB 4084

Chair Nguyen and Members of the Committee:

The Port of Portland supports HB 4084, which is a critical and timely step in driving investment across core sectors of Oregon's economy. Oregon is at a true inflection point, where we are seeing businesses and workers impacted by higher costs, supply chain disruptions and reduced competitiveness. We must act with urgency to support Oregon's economic vitality now and into the future.

The Port of Portland's mission is to drive shared prosperity through trade, travel, and economic development throughout our region. HB 4084 will bolster our economic development success, and that of our business partners, in meaningful ways.

First, the Joint Permitting Council will help identify efficiencies and system improvements. Staffed by a comprehensive array of state agencies and private sector development experts, they will implement a FastTrack permitting process for high value projects. This tool will help reduce time delays and project costs, while also improving line-of sight and coordination between state agencies.

Second, HB 4084 directs \$40 million toward the Industrial Site Loan Fund. This newly established fund is an important tool for local governments in handling up-front costs related to site readiness. Development-ready industrial land is essential for the retention and growth of Oregon manufacturing. According to an Oregon Business Council survey, a majority of Oregon cities and economic developers say that they have missed opportunities due to lack of development-ready land.

Third, HB 4084 directs strategic changes to the Oregon's Enterprise Zone program to increase its utility and incentivize investment. In our experience working with businesses and developers, the Enterprise Zone Program has proved to be one of the most effective tools in attracting new businesses. Expanding eligibility criteria will increase use of this program and ultimately lead to more jobs and long-term revenue.

We applaud the legislature's engagement on improving Oregon's economic competitiveness and building shared prosperity for all.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Branam
Chief Trade and Economic Development Officer