

**PORT OF NEWPORT
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-01**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HB 2284
(Allows for Governor appointed Port Commissioners)**

WHEREAS, the Port of Newport was created and ratified by local residents of Lincoln County in 1910, and;

WHEREAS, the power and authority given to the Port of Newport is vested in and exercised by a board of five commissioners composed of electors registered in the Port District and;

WHEREAS, the Port of Newport is a Special District of the State of Oregon, authorized by Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 777, that is committed to financial sustainability in decision making actions and is charged with building and maintaining waterfront facilities and to promote projects and programs that help ensure the long-term viability of the Port, and;

WHEREAS, the Port of Newport contains mixed-use waterfront facilities that support commercial fishing fleets, international commerce, recreational fishing, tourism and marine research, all of which are vital to the economic health of the port, city, county and state, and;

WHEREAS, HB2284, introduced by an eastern Oregon legislator, provides that commissioners of the Port of Newport be appointed by the Governor and not by electors of the Port District. NOW THEREFORE

THE PORT OF NEWPORT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Port Commission rejects HB2284 as it is not in the best interest of the port district and as such, the Port Commission does not support advancing this bill out of Committee.

Section 2. The Port Commission asserts that should discussions begin on HB2284, priority should be given to providing consistency with earlier bills (ref. Senate Bill 962, Oregon International Port of Coos Bay) and as such, any Committee hearing this bill must be willing to entertain amendments that will provide for this consistency.

Section 3. The Port Commission affirms that HB2284 should be amended to remove any specific qualifications for commissioners appointed by the Governor.

Section 4. The Port Commission further affirms that any effort to remove local control of a public entity such as the Port of Newport, must be referred to the electors of the port district organized under (ORS) 777 for their approval or rejection at a special election and HB2284 should be amended as such.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Commission of the Port of Newport.

Section 6. The Commission of the Port of Newport shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Newport City Council, Lincoln County Commission, Oregon's Coastal Caucus, federal and state legislators and any other interested parties.

ATTEST

Stewart Lamerdin, President

Sara Skamser, Vice President