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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
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U.S. JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for a study of the Columbia River Turning Basins in the United States Army Corps' (Corps) Investigations account in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Northwest Division United States Army Corps (Corps) located at 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd Ste 400 Portland, OR 97232-1257.

The Columbia River Pilots have identified several channel-depth turning basins that are needed to continue to efficiently move and maneuver deep-draft vessels while maintaining a margin of safety, and that are logistically the most favorable and most cost-effective areas for the Corps to maintain. When water levels are low in the late summer to early fall, multiple deep draft vessels are awaiting a "window" to depart, and locations on the river system to anchor while they do so are difficult to find. Establishing turning basins are critical to meet this logistical challenge as they provide the second to last place on a vessel's outbound transit where there is room to turn and wait before they commit to exiting the Columbia River.

This funding would be used to study the Columbia River Turning Basin in the Corps' Investigations account. This study would also benefit the Port of Kalama that is seeking authorization to construct a new turning basin, where the Port of Longview is seeking to have its basin deepened and widened. The study will put them both on the path to having these projects authorized.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jaime Herrera Beutler".

Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress