

To whom it may concern,

I'd like to start by saying Boating on the Willamette River in Portland is a Life Style that I have partaken in since I was a young child. I took that love of Boating and boat sports and turned it in to a business that sells the boats that this bill would effect drastically. I own a boat dealership, we employ many people who depend on the sale and service of these boats to support their families. I am not the only business in Oregon that this would effect. The passing of this bill puts many Jobs and families in jeopardy.

We don't just sell these boats, we take the time to educate the buyers, on how to properly use the boat and be responsible for the wake the boat produces. I know education will make a big difference on our rivers when we have educated people operating boats. This starts at the dealership level. Shutting the river down the river is not the answer, like anything a properly trained person will make the difference we are looking to achieve.

Surfing and Wakeboarding are NOT the culprit to shore line erosion or dock damage. The Willamette River has many more erosion problems from high water, logging, development, farming and climate change. There is no way there is enough scientific evidence to support or prove that wake boats are to blame. Plus our boating season on the Willamette is very short.

The recents storms have the river rising at a very high rate, putting lots of stress on docks and pulling mud and trees from the shore line causing far more shore line erosion than any boat could in such a short period of time.

Taking away the Willamette from people that love and take care of it will bring other known and unknown problems that we will face in the future. Take the issues that are happening behind Ross a island as an example. Please do not take away our rights to public water ways.. I am urging all my customers and friends to get involved and send emails in opposition to this bill.

Please email and be heard..

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