

**The Northwest Guides Association**

***To protect, enhance, and promote healthy sportfisheries and the ecosystems they depend on in the Pacific Northwest.***

Senator Beyer, chair  
Committee on Business and Transportation

Dear Chair Beyer and members of the committee,

My name is Bob Rees, I am president of the NW Guide's and Anglers Association, guide liaison to the NW Sportfishing Industry Association and 16 year licensed charter boat in the state of Oregon. We are in full support of SB 25, the Charter Boat Bill. Although largely developed by the Oregon State Marine Board, input from the Guide Advisory Committee provided valuable input into the process to roll 6-pack charter boats into the Guide and Outfitter Program also under the jurisdiction of the Oregon State Marine Board. It is more appropriate that these 6-pack charters come under greater scrutiny and stringent requirements found in the Guide and Outfitter program.

One loophole that this bill closes is if a guide loses his/her guide license due to illegal activities in the field, that person can simply apply for a charter license and continue on with business as usual. I am one of those operators that hold both a charter license as well as being a licensed guide.

In addition to closing this oversight, the 6-pack fleet operates more like a guide vessel than a traditional "charter" vessel that most of us have come to envision. The larger, inspected 7+ passenger, commonly fiberglass ocean going vessels should clearly be distinguished from our smaller, mostly inland and nearshore guide boats that operate differently in our state's waters.

The Oregon State Marine Board and the Guide Advisory Committee has put in a lot of effort to bring these programs up to date with current operations of our industry. Again, we fully support SB 25 and appreciate the work that Randy Henry and the Oregon State Marine Board has put in on this important issue.

In Gratitude,

Bob Rees, President  
NW Guides and Anglers Association  
(503) 812-9036  
[brees@pacifier.com](mailto:brees@pacifier.com)