

 **NORTHWEST RAFTING CO**
Award Winning Global Adventures

March 6, 2016

Oregon House Committee on Transportation Policy
Representative Caddy McKeown, Chair
Representative Mark Meek, Vice-Chair
Representative A. Richard Vial, Vice-Chair
Representative Greg Barreto
Representative Paul Evans
Representative Susan McLain
Representative Ron Noble
Representative Carl Wilson
Representative Brad Witt
Re: Opposition to HB 2320
Dear Chair McKeown and Committee Members:

As a small business owner and recreational non-motorized boater I am writing to oppose House Bill 2320 which authorizes fees on non-motorized boaters in the State of Oregon.

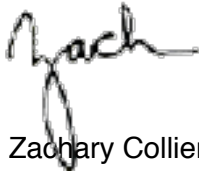
First I am opposed to this on principal. As U.S. citizens we should have the right to recreate on our public waterways without annual fees.

I am also opposed to this as a business owner. We have many customers bring their boats from out of state to go on multi-day river trips with us. This type of fee is unheard of around the country, would frustrate our customers, and keep them from returning to Oregon for vacation. Their tourism dollars are more important than this fee which does not benefit them.

Finally as a recreational user of Oregon's waterways I am **strongly** opposed to this. The Oregon Whitewater Association currently provides regularly scheduled and inexpensive safety training for non-motorized boaters. I have spoken with the Oregon Whitewater Association and nobody from the OSMB has ever reached out to work with them on safety education for boaters. I would prefer that the OSMB work with the current organizations instead of lobbying for more money for their office.

The public is not asking for this.

Sincerely,



Zachary Collier
Owner/Outfitter
Northwest Rafting Company