

I am *opposed* to HB4099 & HB4138.

My name is Hannah Caruso. I grew up living with a dock on the upper Willamette, located next to the I-5 bridge (between mile markers 30-50). Our dock is located right before the No Wake Zone under the two bridges. Due to this, boats frequently turn around in front of our dock to avoid the No Wake Zone. This also means that because of this, our dock receives double the amount of waves than the average riverfront owner's dock, located away from a No Wake Zone withstands. Despite this, my family has enjoyed living on our property with our dock for the last 15 years.

I, now 20 years old, am lucky to have grown up on a riverfront property and enjoyed wake sports with my family. We have a boat with a wake enhancing device, and enjoy using it during the warm summer months. My family maintains our dock and property to withstand the wakes of other boats.

I stand with the large group of people who strongly oppose the two bills up for vote this week. I believe that the bills are supported by a small group of riverfront home owners who are not willing to maintain their property. Some of my favorite memories with my family revolve around wake sports. Should these two bills pass my family, as well as many others, will not be able to enjoy wake sports that serve as a fun and bonding activity amongst families. Not only this, but the property value of the dozens of homes owned by families will drop significantly. I think these bills are extreme and rash, as they have significant effects on riverfront property owners.

I hope you DO NOT support these two bills. It is obvious there is a controversy regarding them and that further research should be conducted on both sides.

I appreciate your time,

Hannah Caruso
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Registered Voter in District #13
Re – No on HB 4099 & HB4134

I am writing this in response to the no on HB4099 & HB4138. I am strongly oppose to the original bills, and the current Marine board rules. I believe that it is discrimination picking out one type of boat or activity. The existing rule, and proposed new regulation is not enforceable, and not necessary. I would not be oppose studying the issues of erosion and dock damage, as long as it is an honest study looking into what really causes erosion, as well as what causes dock damage, not just from one type of boat.

I have lived on the Upper Willamette River for 10 years, and have enjoyed the river for over 50 years. I can honestly say that I do not see any more erosion today than I did 10, 20 & even 30 years ago, long before wakeboard and wakesurf boats were around. I have been on the river from month at the Columbia, to the City of Salem, every inch. I can say that I do see erosion from place to place, even from Newberg to Salem, where there are basically no boats.

It is obvious erosion does happen, it is a natural occurrence from wind, rain and the flow of the river. Major "landslides on the river, what many people are calling erosion, in my opinion, is caused by water flowing downhill. Almost every major slide that I have seen has been caused by water runoff from a house, gutters, and or sprinklers. Additionally, it is also in areas that the bank has been cleared of vegetation. The simply act of a boat wakes during a short time of year cannot cause the damage that people are stating. I know where my property runoff is, and I do not have erosion. If boats actually caused the said erosion it would be everywhere.

As far as damage to docks from wakes goes, a well built and maintained dock would not have damage from wakes. It is a natural part of living on the river. Just like living on a golf course, you would expect golf balls, people and noise. Also more in the summers and on weekends. I have to maintain my dock

annually, after winter. The strongly and wetter the winter the more maintenance is needed. I would say a large majority of people complaining about dock damage are elderly folks that do not use there docks regularly, and therefore do not give them the required maintenance. Lastly, if any new laws are in acted, I would say that they should be requiring property owners to maintain their docks regularly to avoid them from falling apart and becoming a dangerous hazard in the river.

Thanks Tim

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