

February 10, 2018

Hello Representative,

We are writing in strong **opposition to HB4409 and HB4138.**

While neither of us own property on the Willamette riverfront, we are fortunate enough to be able to enjoy the use of public water ways throughout the beautiful state of Oregon. Though we do understand the frustrations that many of the waterfront property owners have expressed regarding property damage and erosion, these bills adversely impact a larger number of stakeholders including other property owners and sport enthusiasts.

Though all of us are passionate, trying to quickly pass these bills without due diligence and proper studies of the cited shore impact and other issues would be imprudent and put undue hardship on many property owners, businesses, boat owners and enthusiasts. And since these bills target only ballasted boats and WED as the sole contributor to the erosion problem on the Willamette, passing them without evidence would be putting the cart before the horse.

The OSMB published a document on approximately January 10, 2018 (http://www.oregon.gov/OSMB/info/Documents/Public%20Meetings/January2018_Staff%20Board%20Report_wake%20sports.pdf). This document includes accident data reported to the OSMB from 2010-2017 where the cause or primary contributor was wake related. Out of 101 total accidents on the Willamette during that seven year period, only 7 were wake / force related. This is under 7% of total accidents.

The other concern cited is erosion though there appears to be no formal study done as of yet to support that as fact.

Since there seems to be more questions than answers at this time, we respectfully ask that you **vote NO on HB4409 and HB4138** at this time so that proper studies and debate can follow and that due process is allowed a chance.

Thank you,

Valerie Maxey and Craig Wooden
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