

To whom it may concern,

I live on the upper Willamette River in Wilsonville, and am very concerned about bills HB4099 and HB4138.

The marine board has already reopened the rule making for the entire state, and should be allowed to do their job without political intervention.

HB4099 only addresses the Willamette river, so it targets us as homeowners. If this bill passes and negatively affects me, I will be banding together with other homeowners to file a class action lawsuit against the state, and the bill sponsors for financial losses and diminished value of my waterfront property.

In terms of the "task-force" that is being recommended to look at the issue, from what I understand only two homeowners on the river will be appointed, and it's unclear how they'll be chosen. With no guarantee they'll be one from each side of the issue.

I heard during the Monday session there was a "survey" done of riverfront homeowners on the issue, and statistics were quoted. I was never surveyed, and none of my neighbors were either? Please provide proof of said survey.

Lastly - the issue at hand is said to be a problem for homeowners in favor of the bills because wakes are too large and it's causing erosion, and it's "unsafe".

On the topic of erosion, the river has gone down in water level by over 30ft in the last 5-6 weeks! It does this ALL the time... If it rains hard for a week, it will go up 20ft +, which breaks loose soil, plants and trees. Then the river level drops, and the soil dries out, then it up, etc. Its a RIVER, that's what it does... The constant change in river level and the fact that it's a moving body of water cause erosion. Not 3 summers months of boat wakes.

In terms of it being "unsafe" as some have said "when I'm on my dock the waves almost knocked me off into the water"

Well no kidding, its a FLOATING DOCK. They move around like they should.

Here is the real problem - At the meeting in Wilsonville, there wasn't one single person under 50 years old that said they supported the bill.

The people that oppose boats in general and wakeboarding, just want to sit on their dock and drink coffee and don't want anyone to bug them.

The river is meant to be enjoyed! I moved to the river because it's a family sport. My kids love boating and wake sports.

It's a very safe and family oriented sport....

Is the river busy in the summer? Yup! Just like the freeways are busier now than they were 20 years ago.

Please don't take away the ability to enjoy this incredible natural resource...

Josh Dougherty