

From: [Kelly Holtz](#)
To: [Exhibits HNR](#)
Cc: [Renee Morgan](#); board@oregonyachtclub.com
Subject: In support of HB 2352
Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 7:09:42 AM

Dear Chair Witt, Vice Chair Gorsek, and Members of the House Natural Resources Committee;

Thank you for your service as legislators. The Oregon Yacht Club is a moorage of 39 floating homes located at river mile 15.7 on the East bank of the Willamette River (south end of the Holgate Channel). We experience first-hand the effects of excessive wakes and improper wake boat operation on our property and environment.

The Board of the Oregon Yacht Club **supports HB 2352** because:

- Operators are not currently required to complete any training or demonstrate competency in order to operate a towed water sports/wake boat.
- Users of these boats may be unaware of their effect on other boaters, swimmers, the river, and the surrounding environment. Therefore, boater education is essential. We **support HB 2352** which requires operators to complete a towed water sports endorsement course, demonstrate competency, and to display certificate decals. Safe boating is smart boating.
- OSMB already registers boats and collects fees from motorized boaters. Creating a watersports endorsement course, including wake effect education, is an obvious first step to better river management.
- Excessive wakes create dangerous conditions for all river users - especially during peak recreational times when many users must share the river. River mile 15.7 is a congested area already because of shallow river depths and other geographic factors. Non-motorized boats risk being swamped and capsized when these powerful wakes are present.

Improved boater education will benefit all river users. We, therefore, urge you to vote **YES** in support of **HB 2352**. Thank you.

Kelly Butler Holtz
OYC Commodore
503-358-3425
kbholtzoyc@gmail.com