

House Committee on Natural Resources  
Oregon House of Representatives

Chair Witt and Members of the Committee

Andrew Meyer 3240 NE Jackson Road Loop, Hillsboro, OR.

I am executive Vice President of the Columbia river Yachting Association and represent 20 yacht clubs on the Columbia and Willamette Rivers (CRYA) with around 2000 members.

HB 2351: The Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) is an independent board that should not be dictated to by other commissions pertaining to the Willamette River or other bodies of water in Oregon. The OSMB is already charged with the responsibility to make rules regulating speed on rivers and lakes in Oregon and that includes the Willamette River Greenway. One example is the Holgate Channel on the Willamette behind Ross Island in Portland. There is now a "Slow No Wake" restriction where water skiing was once allowed.

We think that this amendment is totally unnecessary and redundant. If however it is decided that this amendment is to be enacted, CRYA strongly recommends the word "MAY" replace the word "SHALL" on line 30 of this bill.

Respectfully Submitted  
Andrew Meyer

HB 2352: People have been towing other people behind boats for many years. It is not a new thing. That having been said, education is always a good thing. I think that like the Oregon Boater Education Card, the Towed Water Sports Endorsement should be a one time education course for the owner and driver of the boat, if different. The addition of a ONE TIME FEE to defray the OSMB's expenses to administer the program is all that should be charged. The boat owner still has to pay for his boat registration every 2 years. The reason to pass this bill should be to educate boaters on safety, consideration of others on the rivers and the potential damage their wakes can do. It should not be to penalize water sports boaters by charging them a fee year after year for the "privilege". We are, after all trying to encourage people to get into safe boating and enjoy the waters of Oregon. This should also include Wake Board boats as well.

Respectfully Submitted  
Andrew Meyer