

From: [Tom Whittaker](#)
To: [Exhibits HNR](#)
Subject: HB 2351 and HB 2352
Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 8:54:59 PM
Attachments: [HB2351.pdf](#)

To Chairman Witt and the House Committee on Natural Resources,

I am writing to ask your support and approval of the referenced House Bills up for consideration on the February 14, 2019 agenda.

I have lived in Wilsonville since 1975, and since 2001, on the Willamette River, at approximately River Mile 40. With the advent of new technologies, and specifically those related to the sport of wake boarding and wake surfing, I believe the River shoreline has become much more severely impacted by those activities than previously. The wave energy generated by boats participating in those new sports, and specifically boats generating large wakes, has, in my observations accelerated the erosion processes significantly over what had occurred naturally. The attached is one example of what the increase in erosion does to put public facilities at risk, particularly on this relatively narrow stretch of the River.

HB 2351 provides the State Marine Board with the ability to address not only shoreline protection, but also safety issues resulting from the above mentioned sports, and impacting other River users. HB 2352 is a needed companion to HB 2351. With the increased traffic and sizes of boats used for those recently new sports, other River users are put at risk. I can say that when the waves generated by the referenced sports hit my own dock, it is extremely difficult to avoid getting knocked over by the motion of the dock when the waves hit. I have to tell anyone on the dock to either sit down, or hang on to something for support. I have also been told of a fishing boat being swamped by such waves, although that was not on this River. Many boaters seem to not realize what their actions cause, often because they simply do not observe what happens when their waves hit the shore or the docks on this stretch of the River. HB 2352 requires a level of education that is not now in place.

I request your approvals of both bills.

Sincerely,

Tom Whittaker