

Hello Chair Witt and members of the Natural Resource Committee,

My name is Matt Radich, I am the President of Active Water Sports, an Oregon tow-boat dealership and I oppose HB2351. I wanted to follow up on my original testimony in order to be more concise as to why all Oregon tow-boat dealers oppose this bill.

Last year we had a similar bill up for review. It did not make it through the process, but a work group was formed by Representative Vial to look deeper into the issues of user conflict on the Willamette River. After several meetings Rep Vial tasked a smaller group of us to come up with some workable ideas to lower conflicts on the Newburg Pool area of the Willamette.

Working in conjunction with Steve Gregg, President of the Oregon River Safety and Preservation Alliance, we came up with a comprehensive plan to address many of the conflicts that had been discussed. This plan has been officially adopted by the Oregon State Marine Board for the Newburg Pool area of the Willamette. The Marine Board is now beginning work on a similar plan for the lower Willamette River (Oregon City through downtown Portland).

Passing 2351 will not speed-up the process of addressing user conflict issues, nor will it make solutions any easier to find. It will only add more bureaucracy and slow the development of a co-operative plan. Let the Marine Board work through the process that was started less than six months ago. This is not currently an issue for the legislature.

Some key points in opposition:

- Give the Marine Board time to work through what was started last Fall
- While it is stated or not, this bill's intent to restrict boat use
- Many of the arguments for increased regulation is a lack of enforcement. That logic does not make sense
- Education and enforcement of existing rules should be a priority before more rules are added
- Tow-boat dealers and users want to come up with a co-operative plan for the waterways, HB2351 would not lead to that

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Matt Radich
President
Active Water Sports
Beaverton, Oregon City, & Canby, Oregon

