

April 29, 2019

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Chair Senator Michael Dembrow

Vice-Chair Senator Alan Olsen

Senator Cliff Bentz

Senator Floyd Prozanski

Senator Arnie Roblan

Re: In Support of HB 2351

Dear Chair Dembrow and Committee Members,

We are writing in support of HB2351. My husband, Mike, has lived on the Willamette river (approximately river mile 49) in Newberg for 23 years and I have lived here for the last 8 years. During that time, and especially within the last 5 or so years, we've seen a huge increase in boat congestion between Roger's landing and the Highway 219 bridge. This congestion is exacerbated by increasingly larger waves from increasingly heavier boats. We have also sustained heavy damage to our dock, shoreline, and hillside costing us tens of thousands of dollars.

We're not trying to exclude any class of boater from the entirety of the river; we simply want to minimize the financial and environmental impact to our property. We're avid boaters ourselves, and would like to see the Oregon State Marine Board have the authority, and clear direction, to work with other state agencies to enact rules that would protect everyone on the river, as well as property and habitat.

Sincerely,

Mike Barnard and Marie Lennette

Newberg