

I believe HB 2555 is worth of support.

As boats get heavier and wakes gets bigger, even bigger than ever imagined, I don't think people knew what the affect might be.

The new technology on these boats is amazing. Their promotional materials speak to the boats ability to bring ocean size waves to your backyard. With thousands of pounds of ballast, wake gates, electronic speed control and the ability to shift the weight front and back, or side to side, it is remarkably advanced.

Computer chips get smaller and smaller, but wakes just keep getting bigger. Who's to say there won't be 5 foot high wakes in the near future. Does someone have to drown before action is taken. The line needs to be drawn somewhere.

People who actually live on the river (rather than those who come for the day and don't see the long term affects) have noticed the rapid increase in erosion on their banks.

People really started to notice this around 10 years ago, not coincidently around the same time when manufacturers began making boats that could add thousands of pounds to their overall weight once on the water by pumping in hundreds of gallons to their internal tanks. Back then, boats without this capacity weighed less than 4000 pounds.

So that seems like a good place to start. My understanding is that this bill allows for studies to take place to determine if more than 4000 pounds is feasible. It's kinda like setting back the clock to a time when all was good. Let's let the boat manufacturers who have profited from these new boats show us that they don't damage the banks as has been observed by the hundreds of people who live on the river. It's natural for homeowners to protect their property from industries that are damaging it.