

Hi, I'm Kasey Huber and I am against HB 2555 and HB 2725.

Have you seen what happened down at the Oregon coast recently? All of the houses that are about fall off the cliff? Is that due to wake boarding boats? It's what happens with normal erosion. Rivers and oceans change cycles all of the time.

18 years ago I moved to Portland to be on the river. The river is for everyone. I grew up waterskiing and wake boarding and then actually surfing behind a boat before it was a thing on D-lake in Lincoln City, Oregon.

Wake surfing is a much slower and safer towed sport which makes the river much more enjoyable.

Many of the homeowners on the upper river are against these bills.

I have a community on the river where all of my friends, family and neighbors have invested a lot of time and money into houses and recreational towed sports on the willamette river.

People that have purchased on the river or have invested in recreational sports have bought into the river lifestyle. It's like buying a house across the street from a school. There's going to be noise when the kids come out and play. There will be traffic at certain times of the days more often than others. You know that you are getting into when you purchase a home across from a school much like purchasing a home on a river.

It is wrong to expropriate the river in favor a specific group of people. To control the use of the river is despotic. I moved here to be free, not to have rights taken away of our natural surroundings. That's why we live in America. We need laws that make sense to everyone. The studies have yet to show me that erosion exists because of motorized recreational towed sports on the river. It's a natural river. It exists naturally and is not changing course due to wake boats.

These bills will strip away our human rights to enjoy the river and create a political fight that does not need to happen.

The majority of people who own boats, really expensive boats, care about the safety of our river and are responsible individuals. Banning those who have boats or heavy boats is quite opposite of what we really need to do. We need to step up enforcement for the safety and education of the existing rules.

These bills, if passed, will decimate real estate and the river community I've enjoyed for many years, it will decimate small businesses that truly rely on us to keep them running.

If we're able to build houses on the river than we should be able to enjoy the river as we please as long as we're taking the proper precautions and have the proper enforcements on the river. This river is for everyone.