

This bill goes too far in regulating safe outdoor opportunities for Oregonians. This last summer when my family and I were looking for socially-distant recreational opportunities, we turned to the river. We were able to remain outdoors and away from others. Our money supported Oregon roadways via the gas tax we paid while filling our boat. We supported small businesses by obtaining necessary boat safety equipment, take-out food from restaurants on our way to the river and on the river. We supported the marine board through our registration dollars. This bill would kick my family off of the river, and take away a fun, safe, and socially distant activity for us. Boats will be pushed to other bodies of water, thus making those bodies of water more unsafe due to congestion. Furthermore, there is no evidence that directly links erosion to wake boats. Wake sports are already prohibited in sections of the Upper Willamette with adjacent homes. I strongly oppose HB 2555, and I urge the committee to as well.