

I vehemently oppose HB 2734. The tax amounts to a "sin" tax on wake surfing, which is imposed to deter people from one particular boating activity. This tax is unduly prejudicial to one specific section of the boating community, and lacks any clear direction on how the funds would be used, and to what benefit. There are other laws that are imposed to limit wake surfing on the Willamette - this one hurts all wake surfing in Oregon. In that way it is overbroad and unnecessary.

But more importantly, imposition of this tax is likely to destroy or reduce the size of local small businesses. These businesses employ people, who need these jobs to feed their families. The federal government just passed a \$1.9 trillion dollar economic relief package, and the Oregon legislature is proposing an unnecessary tax hike that is solely designed to deter an activity, and that will destroy several small businesses. Do you want to be responsible for putting people out of work in a pandemic? Will you vote to take money out of working class Oregonian's wallets? There are other ways to achieve what this bill seeks - to limit wake surfing to certain bodies of water. Choose one that won't leave kids searching for their next meal.