

Dear Representatives:

I urge you to oppose HB 2725.

The 4,000-pound weight limit in HB 2725 is not a restriction but an attempt to ban towed watersports for most of the people that enjoy being on the water and participating in family activities who have invested in equipment and education. The stated weight limit would ban most of the watercraft that partake in this activity. This will not only strip entertainment from local families but impact employment, taxes and local establishments that serve boaters after a long day on the water. Given the limited proximity of other alternative bodies of waters the ban would shift long time boaters out of the sport or divert them to further locations creating congested waterways, potential safety issues and unnecessary driving. This bill is a direct attack on a specific boat type and the weight limit is not based on any scientific information. There is no empirical evidence that directly links erosion on the riverbanks or damage to docks to wake boats over 4000-pounds.

I hope you will consider the impact of this unnecessary proposals and vote against this bill progressing through the legislature this session. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Atkinson