

Members of the committee, my name is Jerry King and I support SB 857. I own a property on the Willamette River just above Rock Island near milepost 30. Three years ago I had a landslide that displaced a significant amount of soil and vegetation from my embankment. The landslide took about 30 yards of soil, trees and vegetation into the river. After the incident I met with Clackamas County and obtained an emergency bank stabilization permit that allowed me to shore up the embankment above the high water mark (permit #Z0335-18). I have spent the past several years attempting to reestablish vegetation alongside the embankment per the Geotech Engineered and approved plan with the County. This project has exceeded well over six figures so far and the project is still not complete. A portion of the embankment at the rivers edge continues to erode from an undercut bank and I am afraid that is next to give way. I have an adjacent neighbor who has also lost a portion of their bank. This particular embankment area along the river is fragile and suspect to displacement. I love watersports; including water skiing, wakeboarding, wake surfing, tubing and fishing. I personally own several boats and participate nearly year round with watersport activities. By nature, I am not one for regulatory limitations. I am torn regarding my stance on this particular subject but there is a reason for this response. With the advent of technological advancements in the watersport boating industry, it has changed the way it impacts our waterway shorelines and boat docks. The wake that can be produced on the larger boats is incredible and in my view is greatly impacting and advancing erosion issues along fragile shorelines and with boat docks. It's different today with the larger wake producing boats as opposed to even a few years ago. I have watched the erosion take place as the large wakes make their way to the shorelines at heights of 3 to 4 feet. That size of wakes was not possible until recently and is quite normal now with larger boats with deeper v hulls and technologically advanced wake enhancement abilities. That size of continual wake impacting the fragile areas of shorelines is advancing erosion. For those reasons I support SB 857. Thank you for the consideration and your time. Jerry King