

Date: June 2, 2021
To: Members of Senate Committee on Rules
Subject: Support SB 857-1

Dear members of the Oregon State Committee on Rules,

Thank you for your continued and tireless service to the citizens of Oregon.

I ask today for you to **support SB 857-1 (Max loading weight)** this legislative session. This bill will ensure that the Willamette Greenway is protected from the massive, high energy waves that are generated by heavily ballasted wake boats. These vessels have greatly increased the environmental damage and continue to negatively impact the shoreline in the Newberg Pool. Bank erosion in this fragile stretch of the Willamette River continues at a shocking rate due to these unnatural waves.

Out of state boat manufacturers and their lobbyists want to stop SB 857-1 from moving forward this session, stating that all motorized boating is being banned on Oregon waterways. That is simply not true. SB 857-1 does not shut down boating in Oregon. It is a compromise that follows legislation already passed in 2019. It will require the heaviest of boats, creating the most damaging wakes, to recreate in larger waters where their use is appropriate.

Thank you in advance for your vote **in support of SB 857-1.**

Sincerely,

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