

Date: 24 June 2021

**To: Rep. Kotek, Rep. Warner, and House Rules Committee members:
From: Stan & Sharon Halle, residents, avid boaters & kayakers on or
near the Willamette River for 20 & 30 years respectively**

SUBJECT: PLEASE Vote YES on SB857A

- ** Protect the safety of other river users
- ** Protect Habitat, including threatened species
- ** Preserve the shoreline of this precious State resource
- ** Decrease user conflicts
- ** Comply with the Endangered Species Act
- ** Comply with State and Federal Turbidity standards
- ** COMPLY WITH THE WILLAMETTE RIVER GREENWAY/GOAL 15

On the website, **Oregon Families for Boating** (Mostly Industry & lobbyists), shown below are these kids having fun in a perfect size boat for the Newberg Pool.

This boat and 99% of the boats in Oregon easily comply with proposed weight adjustments, allowing other users to recreate safely and enjoyably:



Wake boats change the dynamics of the entire river and need more space. These are the type of boats that will have to drive a little farther to recreate:





These are specialty craft designed for the sole purpose of creating large high-energy surf-like wakes, regardless of whether they're wake boarding or tubing.

Only 195 of these boats are recreating in the Newberg Pool.

The Water Sports Industry has repeatedly misrepresented the size and composition of our supporters by claiming that “*a small number of homeowners with special interests*”... This statement is intentionally misleading. Just look at the list of supporters below. Our so-called 'special interests' are centered on environmental impact of high-energy wakes (often over 4-feet in height) on fish & wildlife habitat, shoreline erosion, property loss & damage, and public safety. Our collective goal is to preserve the fragile Willamette River for generations to come. When you add up the membership represented by these organizations, it is in the 10's of thousands, all of whom are Oregon voters. Supporters of SB857A, including the following organizations:

****Oregon League of Conservation Voters/Oregon Conservation Network**

****Trout Unlimited**

****The Native Fish Society**

****Water Watch**

****The Conservation Angler**

****Willamette Riverkeeper**

****Human Access Project**

****Oregon River Safety and Preservation Alliance**

****Urban Green Spaces**

****Friends of Historic Butteville**

****Ladd Hill Neighborhood Association**

****Willamette Greenway Alliance**

Sincerely,

Stan & Sharon Halle

Newberg, OR 97132

(h) 503-625-7606

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