

Submitter: Corinne Kinnaman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1589

I am so tired of writing a letter to oppose closing down the Willamette River to boating activities. I have done this so many times its ridiculous. I once again oppose SB 1589. Same issue different number. I have lived on the Willamette River for over 40 years. I have learned how to waterski, wakeboard and wake surf on this river. Now I am now lucky to teach my 13 & 15 year old these activities I grew to love. A small group of people want to close the river because they think heavy boats are causing damage to the riverbanks. I can tell you this is not the case. I have watched the bank deteriorate over time due to the increase in river levels during the winter. I just watched it his last December where the river level was higher than years past. I was here during the 96 flood which caused severe damage. 3 months out of the year where wakeboarding boats use the river does not cause damage. I encourage teaching of how to use the water ways correctly. We own a boat and we take the test to get our boaters license and our towing sticker. We see many boats out there that do not have the towing sticker. Signs need to be placed at each boat launch to explain to boat owners how to use the waterways. It makes me angry that a small group of people who are trying to ruin it for everyone who enjoys the river. We follow the rules do everything to keep everyone safe out on the river why are we getting penalized. Don't make me tell my kids they cannot do their favorite activities in THEIR back yard. We pay the big taxes to live on the river as a homeowner that is the risk you take when purchasing a home on the river. It is your responsibility to maintain your property people who want to complain about this or not take responsibility can move its their choice to live there or not.