

Submitter: A Michael Dianich
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: SB1589

February 8, 2022

Oregon State Legislature
Salem, Oregon

Ref: Personal Testimony SB 1589

Gentlemen;

Please accept the following testimony, which I believe to be relevant to SB 1589 (Bill.)

My background is as a young preteen, my father and I built a 14 ft outboard runabout weighing approximately 450 pounds, I used this runabout through most of my teens occasionally towing water skis. In adult life, I became a practicing Naval Architect registered in Oregon, 1976.

The Bill as proposed will limit the weight of boats to be less than 5,000 pounds. When towing, my little 450 pound runabout generated enough wake to cause shoreline erosion as well as putting other small craft at risk. Please note that the wake towboats shown in the videos and photographs appear to be approximately 1,500-2,000 pounds, The Bill as written would have almost no affect for conditions on the river now. It should be amended to limit the weight of boats to be less than 500 pounds.

As a navigable waterway, the Willamette River serves a varied group of recreationists and commercial interests. A recent commercial jetboat head on collision underscores the risks of operating boats at high speed on a waterway that is characterized by narrow channels with congestion. For the safety of all users, I recommend adding a maximum 5 mph over ground speed for safety of swimmers, paddleboarders, canoeists, kayakers, fishermen, threatened salmon and the ecosystem in general.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important Bill.

Yours very truly

A. Michael Dianich
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