

Submitter: Marlene Collier

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1589

I oppose SB 1589 for the following reasons:

SB 1589 will strip safe, socially distant outdoor opportunities for hundreds of families along the Newberg Pool and impact local small businesses who depend on their support such as Active Water Sports who has been in business since 1982. The Newberg Pool is already one of the most regulated bodies of water in Oregon. Wake surfers are subject to a weight limit, required to obtain a special safety certification and only allowed in two small zones with no adjacent homes or docks. Limiting their waterway access even further will only increase the likelihood of accidents. This bill not only exacerbates safety issues, but it also fails to solve a primary issue – enforcement. The state has already struggled to enforce the extensive laws and rules we have, and the bill does not address how to deal with the worst offenders who make the river dangerous for everybody.

There is also the impact of those who work in the local water sports industry and well as an impact to businesses who will lose seasonal customers if use is restricted.