

Submitter: Chris Brandt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1589

Senate Committee,

Please consider this letter as one of support for passing SB1589. I was not always in favor of the bill and in fact joined the public meeting on 2/9/22 to voice opposition to its passing. The testimony given during the meeting prompted me to change position. Senator Kennemers presentation was articulate and on point. His position was supported by facts that I had not seen before. The contrast between his information and that given by the opposition expert was telling. Any objective person who spends real time on the river should recognize the shoddy misrepresentations of facts and conditions. This position is formed as a boat owner and river user who utilizes the stretch of river in question 70-80 "launches" per season. Those "Launches" include a 21' V-drive wake boat, stand up paddle boards, inflatables and hard shell kayaks. We surf, wake board, tube, and water-ski behind the boat. I support the bill because it became apparent during the hearing that the only way to SAVE towed watersports in the Newberg pool is to outlaw wake surfing. I would much rather have to go elsewhere to surf while maintaining the privilege of skiing/tubing/wake-boarding in the Newberg Pool than to have all tow sports eliminated in that section of the river.

Respectfully

Chris Brandt
West Linn Oregon