

Submitter: Chad Burnett

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1589

Chad, Angie, Courteney and Sam all in opposition to SB 1589!!

17 years ago, my young family and I took a huge leap to purchase a house on the river with a sports dock in Newberg. Before this, we enjoyed long days on the river from our Tigard home.

In this time, we have responsibly and respectfully enjoyed the river in ALL ways possible. Boating, paddling, fishing, swimming and some of these things all year long. Paid all fees and taxes, took all courses and obeyed all laws

Rescued many other members of the river community in peril from paddlers to boaters. Also, we make it our goal every year to restore the river in the best way we can by collecting trash and replanting indigenous vegetation.

This is a way of life for us!!

Now, fast forward, we have 4 voting aged members of this community who aggressively oppose this action. While we all understand Wakeboarding and other outdoor activities are not a right. Having a privilege that has been treated with respect seemingly stripped away with very little real data to support it.

As the owners and residence of the closest private property to Rogers Landing, we have potentially the most exposure to boats and large wakes. I have even participated to help with the change of zones to support our neighbors that really wanted to reduce the wake traffic.

These new "rules", lasted just a couple of seasons with little to no enforcement or education and no proper studies of the results. I heard testimony that, "education and enforcement has been tried, now we must take stronger action". I also strongly object to throwing this out. Failing to educate and enforce is not a reason to stop trying, but to try harder. It was a pure and simple lack of effort.

Simply choosing a mean number like 5000 lbs. without the studies to back this number, only because some small special interest groups and individuals do not like it and scream environmental and call to ban it.

Where is the data and studies that shows 5001 lbs. is the culprit of the rivers alleged boat wake damage?

Please consider the majority and take into account that banning first and asking questions later is a very backwards and seemingly underhanded tactic often used to strip away liberties.

Thank you for your time,

Chad Burnett
Angie Burnett
Courteney Burnett
Sam Burnett