

Submitter: Courtney Layne

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1589

My name is Courtney Layne and I oppose SB 1589. I live in Tualatin Oregon. I am a lifetime resident of Oregon. I have been a boat owner for 30 years. My family and I actively participate in many summer watersports activities on Willamette River in the Newberg Pool. We paddle board, we kayak, and we engage in towed watersports activities as well. I understand this is a hard issue to solve.

I have two points that I feel are important to consider.

First, why is this bill being forced through with an emergency clause? Is there a dire situation that needs to be resolved? It feels like the sponsors are trying to push the bill through so due process does not need to be followed. If the bill has merit, then let it follow the standard process.

Second, currently wake surfing is only allowed in two sections of the Newberg pool. Miles 31.8 to 33.2 and miles 46 to 47.6. Banning surfing will not have a huge effect on the wake erosion for the entirety of the Newberg pool since it only happens in two spots totaling 3 miles out of the entire 20 mile stretch. This bill may be more widely accepted if you keep the 5000 lb. weight limit on all boats but remove the wake surfing ban. If you let people surf where they currently can surf, it would eliminate the opposition's "You're killing my sport" argument and still accomplish what the sponsors are attempting, which is mitigating erosion.