

Submitter: Jason Johns

On Behalf Of: myself

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

I urge you to oppose SB 1589. This proposed legislation comes quickly on the heels of recent restrictions that have been enacted and that needlessly impact watersports in the Newberg Pool, and the community hasn't even been afforded the passage of a reasonable period of time to determine whether those existing restrictions help to accomplish their intended goals. The fact that additional restrictions at the Newberg Pool are once again before the legislature, without any change in circumstances or further evaluation, indicates that this legislation is nothing more than an outright attack on river users as well as homeowners along the water. The Newberg Pool is already significantly regulated, without sufficient basis, and the additional restrictions in SB 1589 will force recreationalists to use the few waterways that remain locally-- rendering them even busier than before and, consequently, increasingly dangerous. In addition, the legislation may cause significant harm to the value of properties, marinas, and homes along the Willamette river, many of which have docks and boats to be used for watersports. Those activities are one of the primary reasons people want to live in these locations, and yet SB 1589 will render these properties and the investments those homeowners have made effectively useless for purposes of activities that have occurred there for generations. I urge you not to take this river away from the community. Vote no on SB 1589.