

Submitter: Justin Meyer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

My wife and I recently moved to Newberg from Portland. One of the major contributors to our decision was the close access to the Willamette River for boating and recreation. I grew up boating with my family on the Willamette and I hope to be able to pass on that love of boating with my daughters. Last summer we bought a small ski boat and spent many days and evenings out on the water. Most of this time was spent between Rogers Landing and the mouth of the Yamhill River. This area was never congested and it does not seem necessary to me to extend the Newberg Pool Congested Zone to include this stretch of the river. The rest of this legislation that seeks to ban wakesurfing and boats over 5000lbs seems completely arbitrary to me. My small ski boat can't create a surf wake nearly as large as the larger boats, so why should I be banned from surfing? What makes 5000lbs the right amount? I hope that someday as our family grows that we would be able to get a larger boat that could fit all my kids, yet if those boats are banned we would not be able to boat as a family. This section of the river is already very heavily regulated and I do not believe that this legislation would make things better.