

Submitter: Susanna Farahat

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

I'm writing to express my support for SB 1589. Please pass this bill that would help protect our beloved Willamette river! As a someone who cares deeply about the health of the river, and who has the joy of witnessing our river's life up close in a kayak, I'm asking you to please restrict the use of Towed Water Sports boats.

Well established riverine biologists have concluded that there are negative impacts for the Willamette, from the letter to the Marine Board from NOAA Fisheries, to fisheries biologists at OSU and others. The science is well known and clear, and does not need to be repeated yet again on the Willamette. A recent study from the University of Minnesota also clearly concluded that Towed Water Sports boats are NOT like other motor boats and concluded that wake boats need to be at least 500ft from shorelines to protect them. Our river isn't wide enough to support these TWS boats. Please protect our shorelines and the creatures that inhabit them.

Thank you for your consideration.