

Submitter: Timothy Morgan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

Dear Legislator,

My wife and I are residents of Oregon City and frequently take our family boat out on the Willamette River (both upper and lower) for enjoyment purposes only. I oppose SB 1589. One of the few fun and family things to do in the Portland Metro Area is to take a boat out and have wake surfing or tubing with a motor boat down or up the Willamette. To take this away, after so many years and many boaters enjoying our river, would be cruel and unfair. When I first moved to Oregon in 1990, my wife's bosses at her new job would take employees out on their boats on the river as a "team building" activity. She has so many fond memories of this.

Since when do wealthy home owners own a river such that they can decide who and what floats on it? The river is our river, and we all live here. I don't see those homeowners who have most likely created SB 1589, cleaning up the debris on the river, or controlling speed limits, etc. So why can they have jurisdiction on what legally goes on in a boat? Home owners who live along the river do not own the water that flows by their property. They can not suck water from the river to irrigate tier property without a permit from the state. So if they cant take the water without permission, they don't have the right to control what state licensed vessel that floats along the river. When they moved to their home on the river, they knew there would be boat traffic and recreation. Please do not take away the one outdoor activity that is wholesome, fun and encourages family togetherness!

Please vote no on SB1589!!

Timothy & Eileen Morgan
Oregon City, OR