

Submitter: Joseph SKUDLAREK

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: SB1590

I am STRONGLY opposed to repealing the sane and responsible restrictions regarding boating and towed sports on the Newberg Pool.

The Newberg Pool is a unique resource, and the best public use is to preserve it for appropriate uses.

I'm an avid kayaker, I kayak the Willamette River regularly (even in winter), and I want to keep use of it safe and sane -- a repeal would substantially reduce the utility and benefit to much of the population, and also allow erosion and destruction of this jewel of a river section in an urban setting.

I've paddled every part of the pool (the Narrows is my favorite local paddle) and to lose the natural conditions on the pool would be a great loss to many. There are local alternatives for wake-boarders and big wakes. There are no alternatives for paddlers for the Newberg Pool, a stretch of river rich with paddle sport opportunities.

Allowing wake boats again would be akin to allowing ATVs in a wilderness -- they just don't belong there, would conflict with a primary use, and cause untold damage.

Please, let's preserve the peace and power of the Newberg Pool by allowing it to remain a wake boat free zone.

Respectfully submitted by a volunteer member of the Oregon Ocean Paddling Society, who is also a member of the Willamette Riverkeepers, the Tualatin Riverkeepers, and the Columbia Riverkeepers.

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