

Submitter: Melinda Ogles

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: SB1590

Hi,

I support this bill as I grew up in a home which owned a boat dock on the Willamette River. We would ski all the way from Butteville to Newberg and back, taking turns on who was going on the ski run. Some of my best childhood memories are knee boarding, inner tubing and water-skiing on the Willamette River. We would have water ski competitions to determine who could make the biggest rooster tail and cut the lowest. I still ski to this day and have been skiing and since I was 6 years old. As the years have progressed and wakeboarding and surfing became a thing, I jumped onboard with those water sports. Participating in water sports with family and friends makes memories. It can be an all-day adventure out in nature, on the water, and in the sun. My kids are wanting to keep the family traditions going and would like to participate in water sports on the river. They enjoy surfing and wakeboarding. I want them to be able to make their own memories on the water, spending quality time with family and friends.

The present weight limit (combined factory dry weight and ballast) has no national standard which has posed significant challenges for consumers to determine if their boat is eligible to use. Let's bring back boating for families and keep people out in nature, enjoying the water and sunshine.

I look forward to being able to ski and wakeboard in my backyard again!

Sincerely,

Melinda Ogles