

Submitter: Evelyn Galloni

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: SB1590

I was at the hearing on Tuesday prepared to provide my testimony in person but time ran out and I did not get a chance to speak.

I was going to say that this seems to come down to one thing: either you believe the facts that these large boats with their large wakes have a negative effect on the river (opposing this bill) or you don't (supporting this bill).

I oppose this bill because I have personally witnessed the negative effect that the wakes from the large boats cause. I have lived on the river in the Newberg Pool for 30 years. I have seen the evolution of the towed sports from water skiing, knee boarding and tubing to wake boarding and then wake surfing. This evolution has also been seen in the size and weight of the boats. The boats got too big for the Newberg Pool. It is too narrow and the banks can't handle the waves. I have had bank erosion, dock damage, an inability to kayak, but most concerning was the disturbance to the wildlife. Some may say that the winters cause the most damage- I can say out of 30 winters that I have lived through, (including the flood of 1996) the big wake boats have done the most damage.

I read many of the testimonies of the individuals that are in support of this bill and see a pattern. None that I read mentioned a care regarding the health of the river or its wildlife. Somehow they seem to be in denial regarding the facts or I can't imagine that they would choose their entertainment over the health of this beautiful river and its wildlife.

Since the current bill (SB1598) was past, many of these issues have improved.

Please do not pass this bill (SB1590) now or ever in the future. Let's keep our river safe and healthy.

Thank you