

# NW Jet Boat Charter LLC

30925 NE Bell RD.  
Sherwood, OR 97140



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February 15, 2025

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade  
Oregon State Capitol, 900 Court Street NE  
Room 453  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: HB 3140 Relating to recreation; declaring an emergency

Chair Nguyen and Members of the Committee:

As a retired Portland firefighter and the owner of NW Jet Boat Charter, I am writing to express my concern about the impact of rising liability insurance costs and outdated liability laws on small recreation businesses in Oregon.

NW Jet Boat Charter provides jet boat tours on the Willamette River, offering a unique and accessible way to experience Oregon's waterways. Our focus on community and safety is hindered by the escalating cost of liability insurance, which has increased by 54.5% since 2018 despite having no claims against my business. This financial burden limits our ability to invest in safety measures and growth, and jeopardizes our continued operation.

I believe that Oregon needs a balanced approach to liability that ensures personal responsibility while supporting the sustainability of small businesses. I urge you to consider the impact of current liability laws on recreation providers like myself and the communities we serve. Your support in finding solutions to limit liability and protect small businesses would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Scott Heesacker  
Owner, NW Jet Boat Charter