

Submitter: Tyler Way

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301

I am writing in strong support of SB301. Growing up in Gladstone, OR, I was able to utilize the Willamette River as it was intended. Spending quality time on the water with family and friends water skiing, wake boarding, and tubing was the highlight of every summer. My family never owned a boat, so we relied on family and friends who had them. I wanted nothing more than to someday own my own boat and have access to this amazing river.

After spending 5 years in the Navy and moving all around the country, my wife and I started a family of our own and decided to settle back in the Portland area. We found an amazing community in Wilsonville with private dock access for the neighborhood and bought our dream home. It is the perfect scenario for boat ownership and the ability to utilize this amazing river. I long to create memories with my children towing them around the river, watching them learn and grow in whatever water-recreation sport they so choose. We have 4 children who are just old enough to start towing around the river in the beautiful Oregon summers. Our hopes were dashed when SB1589 passed and eliminated our boat, along with the majority of our neighbors boat's from being able to tow due to the un-realistic weight restrictions set forth. SB301 would allow our boat to be back on the water, creating long lasting memories for us and our children.