## KEN & BARBARA VERBOORT 23905 Butteville Rd NE Aurora OR 97002 503-678-5567

January 30, 2018

Chair McLain & Committee Members House Transportation Policy Committee Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 4099 and HB 4138

Dear Chair McLain & Committee Members

My wife and I purchased a home on the Willamette River at 23905 Butteville Rd., NE Aurora, OR nearly 32 years ago. We are in support of House Bills 4099 and 4138 for the following reasons:

- 1) We have watched the boat size and design generate larger and larger wakes; in particular, the last 5 years. These larger and larger wakes have had a huge impact on safety of people on the docks, erosion and dock damage. The increased erosion at the summer months water level is breaking down the bank structure and integrity at the very foundation. As the lower water level line deteriorates, the entire bank above that foundation level is at risk. This greatly increases the potential and has resulted in entire banks sloughing off.
- 2) These same enlarged wakes have caused tens of thousands of dollars to home owners for the repair to docks up and down the river and which, in turn, will negatively impact the value of homes along the river.
- 3) Lastly and <u>most</u> important, we have got a serious safety issue on the river. In watching from our deck, these huge wakes are throwing docks, boats, paddle boarders and swimmers violently about. This can only result in serious injuries or potentially deaths.

There presently are rules in place but we have nearly no enforcement. We respectfully request your support of these bills to help reduce these risks and damages. Anything you can do in this regard would be helpful. We ourselves, do support all boating/water sports activities as long as they don't put other users or property at risk. Thank you for your Consideration.

Barbara Verhoart