NO on HB4138

HB4138 is written so loosely that any government agency that wants to have the marine board act against boaters will have the ability to do so. These agencies don't have any real involvement with boating around the state, so how are they to determine whether water usage for commerce or recreation is the contributing factor to events of erosion. This really opens up the door for well-funded environmental groups to lobby for unnecessary closures of areas of public recreation in our state with no real evidence of the actual causes of erosion that may occur.

THIS IS NOT AN EROSION BILL. IT IS A BOATING RESTRICTION BILL! If this were an erosion bill, it would grant people the ability to enhance shorelines (riprap), dredge, etc. in addition to looking at water usage to help alleviate incidents of erosion rather than solely going after boaters.

The OSMB's own director doesn't want to take on this responsibility either as evidenced by his comments and not wanting to take any position on the bill. By putting this in the OSMB's lap every time there is any erosion along a waterway in Oregon, forces them to legislate against boaters since that is the only authority they have whether that is the cause of erosion or not.

What the OSMB is doing is working on rules that will impact boaters statewide with regard to usage and wakes. An actual user/homeowner/business group representing the boating community state wide is working with the OSMB to offer solutions that make sense and are enforceable regarding boating. The rule making process is already underway, so why don't we see what comes out of that process before granting "carte blanc" to anyone with the money and resources to force changes that infringe upon boaters to suit their own agendas.

Please vote NO on HB4138!

Darren P. Holsey, ERPA, APA, APR, QPA, QKA Owner / Senior Plan Consultant

