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Chair Witt, Vice-Chair Gorsek, Vice-Chair Sprenger
Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources
State Capital
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for HB 2352

Dear Chair Witt, Vice-Chairs Gorsek & Sprenger, Committee Members:

I have lived on the Willamette River for more than 16 years. I am an avid boater and water skier, and our family regularly wakeboards on the Willamette. I am also concerned about the long-term viability and environmental sensitivity of the precious resource that is the Willamette River.

I am in support of HB 2352.

HB 2352 was created after a joint compromise established between boat manufacturers and those interested in preserving the viability of Oregon waterways. HB 2352 provides for more focused boater education, better signage, and improved overall boating practices. It also allows for the collection of more detailed boat information, as well as making these new OSMB rules more enforceable. HB 2352 works in tandem with HB 2351, which together helps the OSMB better address boater congestion/conflict, safety concerns, as well as mitigate the impact caused by high-energy wake.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael S. Farrell