



Attn. House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

March 5, 2021

Re: Support HB 2555

Dear Mr. Chair and Representatives,

As one of those who enjoy paddling my canoe for exercise and recreation, it's a harrowing experience to do so on the Willamette River. Surely, we can have rules that allow for the motorboat experience; BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF PADDLES IN CANOES, KAYAKS OR OTHER SELF-PROPELLED WATERCRAFT.

Often these large motor boats (and tows) roar by with little concern to those of us in our canoes. Some do slow down, which is greatly appreciated. With a bit of warning, I turn my canoe to ride their wakes.

Why is it though, the bigger the boat (and tows), the more arrogance and less consideration?

The environmental impact of these huge towed boats and their wakes are harmful to nurseries and habitat.

Today these boats are far too big, and the Marine Board is too limited in its representation (I support HB 2695 as well).

I urge your support for HB 2555. Let us all use and enjoy our Willamette River together, with reasonable limits.

It's river, not the ocean.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave McTeague".

Dave McTeague
Milwaukie area State Rep. 1985-95 (Co-Chair, Water Policy Committee 1987)
Clackamas Fire District Director 2003-2015
Past President, Assn. of NW Steelheaders