

Writing in to make certain my opposition to these bills is recorded in the event i am not called on for verbal testimony. These are very biased measures put forward with those of special interest that in essence want to "privatize" the water way for their own means and pleasure whether they be river front house owners, paddlers or rowers. These bills will all but end what Oregon families of have enjoyed for multiple generations. Families will no longer be able to do towed sports of any kind on the river - skiing, boarding, surfing, or tubing. It will be devastating for so many local business that offer services associated with selling, servicing, storing, along with fuel and gear. For existing boat owners it will effectively render their boats useless and severely impair the value of said boats causing tens of thousands dollars personal loss for so many boat owners.

There are no studies or science that support any of the claims or concerns put forward by these special interest groups. However, they say it enough times and many people presume it must be true and real. I am also fortunate enough to live along the Willamette River and it is so obvious that on the grand scale of this beautiful and powerful river, these tow boats are not even a drop in the bucket.

There are no means to enforce these rules. Doing so will require levying more taxes on all associated counties to increase river patrols. Do we really want to make such simple, safe and fun sports "outlawed" and then have to pit law enforcement against the local community? Our tax dollars and efforts are clearly better focused elsewhere.