

This proposed bill is a sad reminder of what this Great State of Oregon has become. A slave to special interests, and not the greater benefit of it's population. This bill will take away what many families RESPONSIBLY have enjoyed for decades on the upper Willamette River. I urge you not to listen only to the loudest voices, but to your whole community.

This bill is stepping on the rights of so many who responsibly use the River for recreation. Many families purchased homes and boats to use primarily on the Willamette River. Think of what a great opportunity it is for families to be enjoying a COVID friendly activity in their own backyard. Think of their diminished property values! Water sports on the river is a fantastic way to spend "Family time". I know that is EXACTLY what I use it for. This time on the river with family can be pivotal to helping bond relationships between children and their parents.

This bill will also create more congestion on other bodies of water nearby. For example, all owners of boats will now have to drive to other local bodies of water, which already have a good amount of boaters using these waterways. If this passes, you will be forcing a large increase in waterway traffic to these other areas, impacting their enjoyment. Causing overcrowding and potentially dangerous conditions.

The State has historically struggled to enforce the laws and rules we have on the books. This bill does nothing to address how to deal with the worst offenders who make the river dangerous for everybody. Why not add to the current budget to help enforce the current rules! Special interest groups are again wreaking havoc on those who are responsible boaters when there are a few bad eggs that are not following the rules and causing the rift.

How do you respond to the impact it will have on small local businesses? There are many local area businesses that will be left with very few customers if this bill passes.

Please use caution when you see proposals from any special interest groups. Our way of life here in our beautiful state lays in the balance with these decisions every time they try an propose something as preposterous as this bill.

VOTE IN OPPOSITION of HB 2555