

Hello Chair Witt and members of the committee. My name is Jon Kleinman and I want to thank you for the opportunity to write to you in opposition to bills 2555 and 2725. I attempted to speak to this online but after over 2 hours, I was not called upon and had other responsibilities to tend to.

Boating for me is special because it creates opportunities to build friendships and deepen family bonds. Especially in these challenging times, being able to get out on the water has been even more valuable. There are a few reasons that I am in opposition to the proposed bills: 1) I believe every Oregonian should be entitled to free and equal use of our shared waterways and resources. Laws and rules should not be enacted because a few property owners would prefer to have less and different boat traffic. 2) By adding use restrictions, an unfair financial burden would be placed on those people who have already purchased boats that might not be able to use them as fully under new regulations and therefore, would be forced to sell them at a potential loss in value. 3) There are numerous businesses in our area that depend on boating for their livelihoods and would be negatively impacted by these bills.

4) The causes and effects of erosion are not straightforward to prove and I would argue that fast moving high waters from winter and springtime flooding is much more damaging erosion than any caused by PowerBoat wakes on a relatively few days of the year. 5) There are over 110,000 miles of rivers in the state....most of which is not navigable by the types of powerboats that are being targeted for restricted use. In other words, there are many places that a small craft boater who seeks a more peaceful outing can go to instead of where these types of PowerBoats boats frequent. 6) Adding additional restrictions would concentrate boating in other areas and could create safety risk due to congestion. Therefore, I would also recommend rescinding restrictions on the upper Willamette and other areas that exist today in order to expand the usable areas. Regarding solutions, I would be open to levying fees on all boaters (not just power boaters) to improve safety and legal compliance by the police force of all waterway users. Thank you for your time.-Jon Kleinman