I want to let the committee know I DO NOT support this bill. I have read through quite a bit of the testimony and believe a lot of these problems can be fixed without this law. I am someone who uses a kayak on the river and a small fishing boat, and I want to see all families be included and use the river how they see fit. For the people with docks, I believe it is a privilege to have a dock in the public right of way and not a right. If you are worried about waves hurting your dock, take it out. It may be better for the environment anyways without all the oils from pressure treated wood seeping into the river. Here is a parable for the people with docks:

I want to build a deck that extends my property past the sidewalk and into the street that I can use to hang out on every now and then. I know I don't own the sidewalk or road, it is public property, but I want all cars to go around it and not drive next to my deck because cars driving too close to my deck could damage it. Now replace the word deck with dock and street with river. It still sounds crazy to me. For the people saying it erodes the bank, good news, you don't own the bank. You own up to the high water line so it is not your property anyways. For the Portland Water Spectacular who claim it is unsafe to ski around wakesurfing boats, good news! The marine board just banned wakesurfing below the falls. You can go practice there, or at least you should if you were truly concerned about safety like you claim. For the people concerned about the fish, if you are really concerned about wakesurfing in the river for 2-3 months out of the year hurting fish, you should also be lobbying to remove all the dams on Oregon rivers, even the ones that prevent flooding since that is what is best for the fish.

Again, I have heard all the arguments and I believe wakesurfing has a place on the Willamette and should not be restricted any further. Plus, during a worldwide pandemic seems like the wrong time to stop people from recreating outdoors.

Thank you,

Brad Woebke