

I strongly opposed bill HB 2725 and the other 3 bills associated with it. I've been boating on the Upper Willamette for nearly 20 years and it's a special place for me and many other Oregonians who have special memories with their friends and family. This bill if passed would strip away my right to boat on public waterway and would remove future memories that I will have with my wife, kids, family and friends. As a taxpayer of Oregon, I'm furious as this is even conversation, let's look at the downside of what will happen if this bill is passed.

Loss of gas tax revenue from less gas being purchased due to less boats,

Loss of revenue due to less boat registrations,

Loss of revenue due to less boat sales,

Loss of revenue due to less supplies being purchased for boats, Loss of revenue due to less food and beverages purchased at local stores due to less boating.

If wakeboard boat is the sole issue of why we're discussing these bills, then there are currently wakeboarding zones on the Upper Willamette River which majority of Oregonians obey. Perhaps, increase fines for those who violate the non-wakeboard zones.

The majority of Oregonians who are involved in the HB 2725 bill strongly opposed them as clearly presented on the March 9th call. If the bill passes the committee, it would send a message to the majority of us that we don't matter.

Best regards,

Jeff Leaptrott