

I am deeply concerned and strongly opposed to the passage of HB 2725 and plead with you to NOT move this bill forward as it is EXTREME, unnecessary and is not based on facts or science - or need for increased regulation. I am a lifelong Oregonian and have lived RIVERFRONT on the Willamette since I was 6 years old. I understand, respect and love this waterway. We are licensed boaters in Oregon, we carry the towed watersports endorsement. We regularly paddle, canoe and swim in this river - as well as fish and enjoy the landscape. We are out almost daily on this river - and I can assure you - there is ZERO NEED to increase regulation of watercraft and towed watersports on this newberg pool stretch of river. Watersports are already steeply regulated - and most newer watercraft (including ours which we purchased last year as a SAFER option for our family) would not be allowed to operate off our dock. You need to at the very least PAUSE and gather more information before moving this bill forward.

I also assure you that a majority of riverfront land/dock owners are OPPOSED to these new rules - many are unaware this legislation has even been proposed and are shocked and saddened as are we.

The argument around speedboat wakes causing damage to shoreline and docks is ridiculous - as any riverfront homeowner knows - the BIGGEST singular threat is related to seasonal high-water, debris and the like that are the biggest threat to shore and property - NOT boat wakes. Also - when EXISTING LAWS are followed - boats aren't allowed to operate with a wake near shore or docks - and a majority of the problems that currently exist would be fixed if current laws are enforced.

So PLEASE do not move this extreme bill forward. It is an attack on our way of life, and would all but eliminate our ability to continue safe and life-long enjoyment of the Willamette River for our family.

Sincerely,

Nick, Rachael, Henry and Hailey Fisher