

Oregon.gov states "The people of Oregon are the owners of the submerged and submersible land ("beds and banks") underlying all navigable and tidally influenced waterways." THE PEOPLE of Oregon. All of the people. Not just the homeowners who have chosen to purchase homes on the water. Taking away the ability of ALL to satisfy the wishes of a FEW is incongruent with that statement on the State's own website.

Our family opposes this bill for several reasons. First, we own a small business in SW Washington which manufactures wakeboard towers & other boating accessories & many of our customers (of whom many are repeat customers!) live in Oregon. Passage of this bill would affect our business in that people would not be purchasing towers if they can't use them in this area, potentially limiting our ability to employ people who need jobs. There are many other small businesses in Oregon & SW Washington that are also marine based. Given the affect of Covid on our communities the past year, we especially need all small businesses to thrive & employ people right now!

Boating of this nature occurs primarily only during the summer & early fall months (June/July to Sept/Oct). That is a MINOR portion of the entire year. For the majority of the year, homeowners along the Willamette who oppose this for various reasons do not have wakesports as a "bother" to them. And this is also already regulated to certain areas of the river, so even when wakesports are happening it is not affecting them. Again, they have chosen to purchase homes on a public waterway, owned by ALL of the people of Oregon. Much like choosing to purchasing a home by an airport where there will be inherent noise, there are activities which will take place on a river that simply come with that territory.

In this age of Covid, people are wanting outdoor activities to be socially distant. Boating is one of them. Please do not limit families abilities to take kids out for a healthy, active sport on the water & spend time together in this way. We are frequent boaters on the Willamette with friends who live in the area and would be dismayed for all of these reasons to have this taken away from the community. Thank you for your consideration.