

Submitting additional written testimony beyond what I could state verbally within 1 minutes time during my in person testimony in the hearing yesterday. I'm highly opposed to HB 2725. This is too far reaching and is not founded in neutral un-biased scientific data. The weight limit would outlaw 2/3rd of all tow sport boats in the region. It also focuses a weight limit on a specific boat type (tow boats) as opposed to all boats. Its a proposal put forward by very biased river users or home-owners to serve their own interests of "privatizing" the river to suit their own interests. This also puts incredible financial hardship tow-sport boat owners as well as home owners. It would completely drop the value of property, boat and homes, that would become illegal to use in the area. It would make the boats very difficult to use and near impossible to sell within the region. Also for home/property owners like myself that are fortunate to live on the river the value would be significantly diminished as the associated benefit of living on the water way with a boat dock will be completely negated. This bill would likely cost a typical boat owners \$50,000 or so dollars in the re-sell value of their boat, they'd likely have to take it out of the region to sell. Likewise for homeowners like myself it would costs hundreds of thousands of dollars in property value. The bill would likely put many local companies out of business and their employees out of jobs. Their are so many companies that sell, service, support, store that would see their customers and business go away in a very short amount of time. For persistent tow sport enthusiasts, like myself, it puts additional personal hardship in that to continue to participate in these activities it will take a significant increase in financial and time expenses to tow boats out of the area to locations that rightfully continue to allow these sports. It causes extra wear and tear on tow vehicles, trailers, the boat itself, the roadways. Also, it prevents this from being a weekly activity to a once-in-awhile activity as the extra logistics and time make it much more complicated to participate. There are much better and inclusive options for all river users. Those opposed to tow sports are very biased and hiding their personal interests of paddle sports or privacy of home fronts behind completely biased/baseless studies that wrongly claim eco-damage and such. There is just as much counter data to this that must and should be considered. Millions of years and billions of gallons of river current aren't impacted by a few days a year of boating activities.