

Hello, I'm Jaren Dewald. I am writing to express my deep opposition to HB2555 and HB2725. Although I did not grow up in the boating community, I am a blue collar worker at a local small business in the boating industry. As an avid hunter, fisherman, and outdoorsman, I am very mindful of conservation and environmental impacts of our wildlife and ecosystems.

However, when making important decisions that will surely have an impact on the lives of our citizens and local communities, you must do so with caution and with undeniable scientific backing. Not solely on the emotions of a small group with their own benefit in mind.

There has been no real, unbiased scientific evidence leading to the accusations of damages caused by certain wake boats. On average, the Willamette river flows over 32,000 cubic feet per second, making the water displacement of boats sound minuscule. Adding a 4,000lb weight restriction will only have negative effects on safety, forcing the majority of boaters to flock to the already crowded lower parts of the river.

Please don't strip the rights of a majorly positive boating community, and let's all share these public waterways together!