

I strongly oppose HB 2734. Penalizing one group of river user with higher taxes and effectively reducing the same groups access in the same day simply makes no sense. While other watercraft have effectively no tax and who will ultimate have a country club to themselves on the river shows a clear disregard for equity, inclusion and fairness.

The "prized" research being touted stems from other countries as well as materials and unsubstantiated photo supplied by Travis Williams and private homeowners looking to privatize their water access. The Willamette river should not become a country club to those extremist groups who seek to deceive and hoodwink our government officials.

In addition, this Special Session was intended to address critical aspects of our state operations: COVID-19, wildfire impact and racial equity and none of these topics were addressed. This a clear bait and switch by special interest groups who look to capitalize on a lower awareness boating public. Where is the focus of our legislature at such a trying time for it's citizens?

Please, vote no and let's explore a more inclusive, more-prepared and validated plan before increasing taxes while stripping your citizens' rights.