



TO: Senate Committee on Rules

FROM: Don Horton, Oregon Recreation and Park Association, Legislative Committee Chair

DATE: April 20, 2021

RE: SB 859

The Oregon Recreation and Park Association (ORPA) is made up of more than 2,200 members, including 68 park and recreation agencies as well as professionals and volunteers. Our mission is to support the recreation and park profession in Oregon through leadership, education, advocacy, and member services.

ORPA believes this is a good bill, with good intent, to increase the amount of money from \$150,000 to \$1 million that the State Marine Board can have in the derelict vessel account for removal of derelict and abandoned boats.

While we support the bill in an effort to help address the growing problem of abandoned vessels, we do so with the understanding that implementation will not result in a reduction in funds available to the OSMB Facility Program.

The Facility program is an essential and well-managed program that assists park providers across the state meet the growing need of maintaining our state boating facilities and increasing access to state waterways, all of which have proven to be important to Oregonians. A reduction to the program funding will result in a negative impact to service levels for Oregon's boaters.

Thank you for your public service.