

Dear Chair Wagner and Committee Members:

Please support SB 857. Large boats, more than 4,000 pounds and designed to create giant wakes, are harmful to the Willamette River. Wakes caused by these boats damage sensitive riparian habitat supporting fish and other animals as well as riverside docks and other structures. As a recreational paddler in a canoe, I feel seriously endangered by these boats and their wakes due to the risks of being swamped and dumped. Folks who need waves can go to the ocean.

Please support SB 857 to promote safety and tranquility on the Willamette for a wide variety of River users. Thank you for considering my input.

Respectfully,
Leigh Schwarz, Portland