

Dear Chair Wagner and Committee Members:

Today I am writing you in support of SB 857. Over the past few years, motorized craft known as Wake Boats have grown in size and impact, today reaching the point where their use is problematic on a number of levels.

A small group of motorized boaters seek to divert attention from the impact of their craft, while out-of-state corporate funds are supporting a lobbying effort that distorts the truth and seeks to dissuade legislators like you from taking meaningful action to address their damaging craft. A small minority of river users who can spend \$110,000 on wake boats designed to generate surf waves on inland waters are affecting all others using our inland waters. Ironically they seek to call the majority of river users "elites" because we have the interests of many in mind, while they and their entire industry have proven a clear lack of understanding of their impact on the river and the lives of most other boaters.