

Hello,

I am submitting testimony to oppose SB 857. I appose anymore regulation on the willamette river there is already regulation in place that has not been given a chance to work yet.

I have been enjoying the willamette river all my life and as things change we can choose to adapt and relate and not ban boating for most families not the upper willamette river.

People are saying that this measure will protect the natural river and that we are disrupting the natural habitat. I am thinly one that sees a damn that was placed in Oregon City, None of the upper willamette is natural or established. The history on this needs to be looked at more than just the last couple of years. This type of legislature is why people want to get out of Portland / Oregon even and move places where this type of small groups can not rule the majority.

Our waterway policies should favor the general public, not select waterfront homeowners and paddlers looking to eliminate motorized boating for their own personal gain. Real studies should be conducted to determine the best ways to keep the river safe and healthy. The Newberg Pool is already one of the most regulated bodies of water in Oregon, and wake surfing is only allowed in two small zones with no adjacent homes.

This bill will make our waterways less safe and negatively impact Oregon families and small businesses. The House already extensively debated this bill and did not move forward. I respectfully urge you to do the same. Oregon needs our senators focused on COVID, economic recovery and getting our kids back in school. Please do not waste time on this unnecessary legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Meyer