

TO: Senate Committee on Rules

RE: Comments on SB 857 - In support of maximum loading weight of motorboats

Dear Chairman Wagner and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of SB 857 because the river cannot sustain the impacts of the waves that are being generated by the heavy wake boats designed to make waves to surf behind. Our family has lived on the river and boated for nearly 20 years. In this time, we've observed the transformation of boats and the resulting damage they are causing to the river and its habit.

Sadly, the message about the destruction to the shoreline and ecosystem is being lost because the boating industry is blasting false statements about a boating ban, which this bill is not about banning boats. This bill will simple set a reasonable limit on boat weight in an effort to minimize the impacts of waves in a narrow water way. It will allow for over 90% of the boats that recreate in the area to continue to enjoy the river. The boats that are over the weight limit will have other more suitable bodies of water to enjoy, such as Lake Billy Chinook (which that state of Oregon is investing over \$600,000 on wave attenuators to protect the dock and shoreline). When making your decision on this bill, please consider the long-term and devastating effects these boats are having on the Newberg Pool. This environment simple can't sustain itself without your support of SB857.

Thank you for your time. Katie Farrell