

I oppose SB 857.

I have been boating on the Willamette river for many years and I do lots of Wakeboarding and Wakesurfing on the river. This bill would make it difficult for me to take part in my active hobbies. This bill would also hurt local businesses that I have been purchasing products from for years.

Our waterway policies should be grounded in solid research and 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. Furthermore, 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.