

Good day,

My name is Lisa Ippolito & I am OPPOSED to SB 857. I am a 20 year waterfront owner in Wilsonville on the Willamette river. In the 20 years that I've lived here, there has been no erosion to our shoreline nor our neighbors. My family spends 6 months of the year on the water to do all activities (waterski, paddle board, kneeboard, wakeboard, wake surf). My daughter has taught both school and sport friends to learn these activities. Being active and staying off phones, video games, computers is vital to our kids wellbeing.

If this law passes, we will not be able to use our boat & this is why we moved to the river. We will be left with an asset that will have no value! Plus, this law will devalue our house and property.

It's very upsetting that there was no outreach to the boating community when these laws were being created! All stakeholders should be included and involved to help find a long-term solution. At a minimum, a long-term study on the upper Willamette should be done to determine what actually causes erosion. The study needs to cover multiple seasons & years so all weather conditions are factored in. Education to waterfront owners on how to maintain their yards & land to the shoreline is key. Clear cutting and improper drainage is more dangerous & harmful to the water banks than boat waves. Owners NEED to be accountable for taking preventive care of their property. Targeting & blaming boatowners for any erosion damage biased.

The -7 Amendment to SB 857 is not a compromise, in fact, it goes further than the original bill that died in the House. While the weight limit is increased to 5,000 lbs, this still bans roughly 50% of Oregonians with towed-sports endorsement decals from using their boats.

Negative impact to the fish habitat is another poor excuse to push this law through. Fisheries experts say that boats have little to no impact on fish runs since the fish and boats are not in the river at the same times. Again, where is the official study on this?? If boats impact fish habitat, then ALL boats should be banned from the river, inclusive of fishing boats.

Targeting certain boats or activities on the water is not only heartbreaking but injustice. Over the last few months, I've listened to many people testify on this proposed bill as it started & died in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, then in the Senate, and now back to the House. Each time the Committee has let those in favor of the bill present long decks which are misleading & non-factual. Each time it has left a feeling that those who vote on these bills have already made up their mind vs. being open minded & supporting the majority. Please do stop this bill as there is no scientific proof that boats cause erosion & this bill will negatively impact thousands of people!

Thank you for listening from a waterfront owner!