

State Marine Board

435 Commercial St NE Suite 400 PO Box 14145 Salem, OR 97309-5065 Main (503) 378-8587 Fax (503) 378-4597

March 11, 2021



House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Chair Representative Witt
Vice-Chair Representative Breese-Iverson
Vice-Chair Representative Hudson
Representative Cate
Representative Marsh
Representative McLain
Representative Post
Representative Reardon
Representative Brock Smith
Representative Williams

Dear Chair Witt, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice-Chair Hudson and Members:

This testimony is provided for HB 2549 which seeks to have the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) provide a centralized annual report on public access sites used to access floatable natural waterways. Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) has no position on this bill but offers the following from our experience as the agency tasked with promoting and regulating recreational boating.

Public access to the water is a crucial underpinning for a significant amount of outdoor recreation in the state of Oregon. Ensuring the public is both aware of, and there is transparency regarding, site closures would provide additional awareness and accountability when sites are closed.

OSMB already works closely with state agencies that provide public access to the water and would seek input from those agencies on how to implement HB2549. We are confident that OSMB and partnering agencies can arrive at a solution that meets the requirements of the bill.

If I may provide any additional information or clarification, I can be reached at (503) 378-2617.

Sincerely,

Larry Warren Director