

Submitter: Mark Chambers

On Behalf Of: In Memory of Governor Tom McCall and the Killdeer

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

Our Willamette has been used and abused for decades ... I remember the stench of raw sewage and decaying fish each summer while growing up near the river in Albany. Tom McCall was my hero and a visionary for what Oregon could be and what the Willamette could represent to our state, and our country. Please recognize our river is always under assault, and the waves and erosion and turbidity caused by recreational "Wake Boats" is another wound to this small ribbon of nature. We have a resource so near our urban population that should be cherished and protected ... it cannot be recreated; only protections can assure a healthy stream and shoreline. Tom McCall's "Greenway" is being washed away along critical stretches by a small group with big boats casting a big impact! The concept of "Willamette Greenway" recognizes the crucial interface of shore and stream. The shore and adjoining riparian lands are under an erosive onslaught not unlike hydraulic mining for gold with water cannons ... miners sought gold, wake boarders seek a ride, both leave unintended consequences to the natural world with costs far beyond the value. Please save our river, join with the spirit of Oregon's "Maverick" Governor McCall, and lend your affirmation to SB 1589. Thank you.