

Submitter: Tammy Tuski

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

Rep Jack Zika

As a waterfront resident of the upper Willamette River, I wish to express my alarm and ardent opposition to further restrictions being implemented on the Willamette River as prescribed by SB 1589 . .

We have 150 feet of shoreline on the upper Willamette River with a gangway, dock and boathouse. We have boated on the upper Willamette for 20 plus years and are fortunate to have lived on the river for the last 10 years. Not only do we wake surf but we paddleboard, ski, tube, fish and wakeboard on the river with our kids and now grandkids. We have adhered to the requirements to travel away from our area to the always changing designated "zone". Our boat is registered, our drivers are registered, they have also payed to take a Towed Water sports education program. These courses and endorsements come with additional fees in order for us to lawfully operate our boats. These bills will eliminate the vast majority of pleasure boats, including us on the Willamette River with the proposed weight limit of 5000 pounds. The boating community was not involved in discussions leading up to SB 1589. All stakeholders should have the opportunity to provide input on policy that affects them to create fair, long-term solutions.

These new restrictions could have significant economic implications for those of us living on the river with loss of property values and for everyone in the greater Portland area whose boats will not be able to be used on the Willamette River.

We see the largest cause of erosion along the Willamette River as happening all winter long. The river is always changing, it rises and falls, sometimes changing by 10-20 feet over a period of just a few days. This December we had someone's boat dock with a picnic table still sitting on it float by.

Every year since we have lived here there seems to be new regulations brought on by groups wanting a private river not the public waterways. Public waterways are intended for the responsible enjoyment and use of the entire community. With the regulations always changing nobody can keep up with the rules.

In summary do not pass Oregon SB1589 Do not target boats over 5000 pounds. Do not omit environmental factors like wind or water currents, floods or vegetation that have a significant impact on shorelines. Do not forget the recent regulations and The Towed Watersports education program which provide respectful and responsible solutions for boaters sharing the Willamette River. Do not dismiss the businesses,

employees and families that have invested in recreation on the Willamette River. Again, do not pass OregonSB 1589 this bills is flawed.

Finally, find ways for the existing Marine Board and local water patrol to promote safe boating on the Upper Willamette. In a world that has become more divisive, where communities feel less safe, where there is increasing vandalism and rioting in our cities don't be the legislative body that restricts and limits the use of these public waterways. We stand with over 4000 other Oregonians that oppose this bill, at [www.change.org/willametteforall](http://www.change.org/willametteforall) and we all ask you to VOTE NO ON SB 1589 in order to allow access to this public waterway for all Oregonians.

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