

2/21/22

RE: Opposition to SB 1589

To Whom it May Concern ~

The Willamette River should be for all to share ~ we pay our taxes, pay our boat registration, follow the rules within existing regulation – and now we find ourselves fighting for our place on the river AGAIN.

We bought our boat in late summer 2019 and was one of the best decisions we have ever made -

Living in Wilsonville & working in Newberg, adding boating & towed watersports to our regular way of life on the Willamette has:

- Strengthened immediate family bonds – Covid was causing mental and physical challenges, and getting into wake surfing has improved mental, physical and emotional wellness.
- Brought extended family closer together
- Created a stronger harmony amongst coworkers
- Created a personal passion for towed watersports, igniting a health consciousness to get/be fit/healthy and enjoy the outdoors, improving our health through outdoor physical activity

Beyond the value of a six figure recent investment that would be crushed by additional regulation, further usage restrictions may have a significant trickle down to local business – We spend \$1100 on a yearly boat dock, \$1000-1500 in yearly maintenance, and over \$2000 in fuel and supplies locally – If we are regulated off the Willamette, we will undoubtedly take our spending to other counties and states.

Please OPPOSE SB 1589 with a resounding NO VOTE and allow the safe and shared use of the Willamette to continue as-is currently.

Thank you for your time and for reading this letter ~ I appreciate your support.

Respectfully,

Ben Root

Wilsonville, OR