

Submitter: Drew Cardinale

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

I am in opposition of this bill passing for a couple of reasons.

Number 1 is the safety of all Willamette River users. Decreasing the size of the river boaters can recreate on, only makes the non-restricted areas more crowded. With room to spread out boating is harmless. However, when you force boaters into a small stretch of the river, it'll become too busy to do any kind of towed water sports. Thus taking away a great way for families to get outdoors, exercise, and spend time together.

My second reason is the impact that this bill will have on small businesses. I myself work for a small business in the water sports industry. This bill will be detrimental to our business and likely cost many jobs.

My final reason is the environmental claims. If there is a way we can compromise and make boating safer for the environment and general public, I'm all for it. But this bill seems to be backed by unsubstantial research that doesn't directly link to the usage of boats on the Willamette river in any way.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this bill!