

Submitter: Stewart Mers
On Behalf Of: River City Boat Sales
Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources
Measure: SB1589

I'm writing to express my extreme opposition to SB1589 and the effects it will have. SB1589 is a rushed and poorly understood bill that will kick hundreds of families off the river. I implore everyone involved in this bill to take more time and a deeper look at the ramifications this bill will have for the boating community, home owners, and local small businesses. As written this bill will eliminate ALL towed waterspouts behind boats weighing 5000 lbs or more including their ballast. The Oregon State Marine Board has a letter dated 2/7/2022 that clearly explains that over half of the CURRENTLY registered 879 boats will be affected and they expect many many more to be affected as well. This is a far cry from the supposed "only 30 boats will be effected" statement that Senator Kennemer repeats numerous times at each hearing.

Please take a deeper look at this bill and what it truly does to the local boating community and its far reaching effects.

Regards,

Stewart Mers
River City Boat Sales