

Submitter: Chelsea Mitchell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

My name is Chelsea Mitchell. I'm a River front home owner in West Linn. For the past decade my family and I have enjoyed a variety of water sports in our backyard including kayaking, water skiing, surfing, tubing and paddle boarding.

I'm here to testify in opposition to SB 1589.

It arbitrarily limits the rights of people using public waterways. Special interest groups are being prioritized over the general population. These groups keep making claims based on supposed research. But there is no empirical evidence to support these claims. However, according to the latest report from the National Marine Fisheries Service, things like development, dams and hatchery practices are what are effecting fish populations. Also, a case study conducted on the Rogue River indicated that recreational motorboats had no effect on the Chinook Salmon population there.

While I strongly support the idea of boater education and rule enforcement, rushing to make arbitrary rules and take away peoples rights seems a dangerous precedent to set. I feel there is a way we can explore how to safely share the Newberg Pool.

Thank you for your time and consideration.