

Submitter: Janice Turner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

We support the need to restrict the impact of high-speed water boats on the Willamette River. According to the data there are 165,000 registered power boats in Oregon, and only 500 have the Towed-Water-Sports certificate. This bill would not impact the majority of boat owners and seems essential to put in place for river protection. We are not only concerned about the impact to the shoreline, but also impacting others who use the river with kayaks, canoes, floats. A few of these boats on the river changes everything for anyone else recreating nearby. Recent studies from OSU, NOAA have shown negative impacts from these boats to the "nurseries" of the river along the shoreline. Another recent study from the University of Minnesota also said that Towed Water Sports boats are NOT like other motor boats and they need to be at least 500 ft from shorelines. Please protect our Willamette River. This is an Oregon treasure that we have responsibility to maintain for future generations.