

Dear Oregon Legislature,

RE: Newberg Pool -SB 1589

My family regularly boat at the Newberg Pool and we oppose SB 1589.

Boating is more than just playing on the water, it's a way for families to bond and stay connected with their children as well. It's an activity that brings people together in a safe and fun environment that can be enjoyed at any age.

If SB 1589 passes our family and many more would be completely banned from using this stretch of open water, simply because most newer boats already exceed 5,000 pounds.

#### Erosion

It's been shown that development and mismanagement of the shoreline by homeowners and seasonal flooding are the primary cause for erosion.

But since wake surfing has been specifically targeted, I wish you could watch some time. What you would see is that to generate a wake to surf, one needs clean and deep water. Because of the snags, underwater vegetation, and slope near the shoreline, wake surfing is done towards the middle of the river. By the time the wakes make their way to shore, they are no bigger than other boating activities that operate closer to the shoreline.

#### Safety

The Newberg Pool is already very regulated, and a special permit is needed to do any wake sports within this stretch of river. Specific zones are already designated for specific activities.

However, if the Newberg Pool bans wake sports and larger boats, where do they go? They'll need to find another river or lake causing more traffic, congestion, and ultimately be more dangerous to Oregon waterways with more boats operating in a smaller area than they are currently.

#### Sharing the river

In my personal experience, I have seen many people fish, canoe, and paddle board within the Newberg Pool along side those of us boating without any issues.

I've read testimony from non-boating advocates of further restrictions, and I understand their wish for clear calm water for them to do their non-motorized activities on; however, Oregon has many options when it comes to non-motorized activities while us boaters are very limited in the areas we can launch and do wake sports.

We love the Newberg Pool and wish to make many more years of good memories playing on the water in a safe and fun environment with our family.

Please reject SB 1589

Sincerely,

Mike Houghton

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