



To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

February 12, 2024

Re: Testimony in opposition of SB 1590

Testimony Submitted On behalf of all the OCN Member Organizations:

1000 Friends of Oregon, Association of Oregon Recyclers, Audubon Society of Portland, Beyond Toxics, Cascadia Wildlands, Center for Biological Diversity, Center for Food Safety, Central Oregon LandWatch, Climate Solutions, Defenders of Wildlife, Deschutes River Alliance, Engineers for a Sustainable Future, The Environmental Center, Environment Oregon, Food & Water Watch, Friends of Mount Hood, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Friends of Family Farmers, Greater Hells Canyon Council, League of Women Voters of Oregon, Native Fish Society, Neighbors for Clean Air, Oceana, Oregon Coast Alliance, Oregon Environmental Council, Oregon Land and Water Alliance, Oregon League of Conservation Voters, Oregon Natural Desert Association, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, Oregon Wild, Renewable Northwest, Rogue Riverkeeper, Sierra Club Oregon Chapter, The Street Trust, Surfrider Foundation, Trout Unlimited, Tualatin Riverkeepers, WaterWatch of Oregon, The Wetlands Conservancy, Wild Salmon Center, Willamette Riverkeeper

Dear Chair Golden, Vice Chair Girod and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer input on SB 1590-1. On behalf of our tens of thousands of members and supporters across the state of Oregon, we would like to register the Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV), and the Oregon Conservation Network's (OCN) strong opposition to passing SB 1590 that would roll back the wake boat legislation that protects the Newberg Pool of the Willamette River from large wake boat erosion. The OCN is coordinated through the OLCV and is a network of over 40 not-for-profit organizations throughout the state, united to advocate for pro-conservation legislation and to fight policies that threaten our state's natural legacy. SB 1590 is a complete rollback of the original wake boat bill SB 1589 passed in, 2022 legislative session. Due to that fact this bill has been designated an OCN Major Threat to a Healthy Oregon and we urge you to not move this bill.

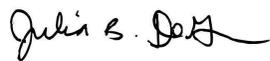
The current "towed watersports" statutes in the state of Oregon are reasonable, and protective of other water users, habitat for fish, and water quality. They allow recreational boating while

minimizing negative effects of towed watersport activities on native fish and water quality in the Willamette Valley. SB 1590 would result in additional damage to the once abundant anadromous fish populations in the Willamette River and its tributaries. It would also put all other water users in harm's way. This is not in the best interest of Oregonians.

A 2016 report commissioned by the state legislature revealed that the majority of Oregonians are concerned about habitat loss, lack of water, declining fish populations, and conservation and management of resources in general. We ask the Committee not to move SB 1590 forward in this session.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia B. DeGraw". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julia B. DeGraw

Coalition Director

Oregon Conservation Network, and Oregon League of Conservation Voters