

Submitter: Glen McCord

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: SB1590

Senate Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of Senate Bill 1590, a bill that will increase public access to towed water sports in the Newberg Pool. I support this bill for the following reasons:

- 1) It supports business, specifically small businesses that greatly benefit from public recreation on the Newberg Pool.
- 2) As a resident of Wilsonville, that lives in a community with a dock, it provides a fair compromise for all residents who live along the waterway to enjoy the Newberg Pool. After previous legislation was passed, I needed to sell my boat as I no longer could use it for its intended purpose in the Newberg Pool. My family moved to this community specifically to enjoy the waterway in our boat, this was a substantial investment but I viewed it as an investment in my family. The current legislation no longer allowed our family to enjoy the river.
- 3) As a responsible boater, as most boaters are, I kept my distances from shorelines and docks so as not to lessen any potential impact. The majority of boaters should not be penalized for those few who do not observe responsible boating habits. Law enforcement should deal with the irresponsible boaters not legislators.
- 4) Responsible shoreline management needs to be observed by all to preserve the habitat. Those who strip the shoreline of vegetation and then complain of erosion from boats should be dealt with separately of any legislation regarding boats.
- 5) The Willamette River and the Newberg Pool is a Federal Waterway that receives federal funds and therefore is exempt from restriction to public access.
- 6) There is no peer reviewed data that supports restricting access to waterways improves fish populations. Recreational boating along the Newberg Pool is largely conducted during the summer months which is outside of fish migration and spawning.

I ask that you support SB1590 and restore boating to the Newberg Pool for all.

Thank you,

Glen McCord