

Submitter: Lee Luker

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301

Lee Luker Testimony 3.22.25

Oppose SB301

I am writing in opposition to SB301 and its -1 amendment to allow ballast to motorboats in the Newberg Pool of the Willamette River.

The Willamette River has a highly erosive bed and bank material and increasing the weight of boats (especially the larger wake boats) will create significant erosion.

SB1589 has made a huge different in recreating on the river. In limiting large wake boats on this narrow environmentally sensitive section of the river, my family has been able to waterski for the first time in years.

There is also more diversity on the river — with paddlers, kayaks, swimmers and regular motorboats now able to be out on the river — because they are no longer threatened by big heavy boats.

SB 1589 also allows the Marine Board to study and recommend any changes in weight limits. SB301 is not needed and will do more damage to our ability to recreate on the river.

Please vote NO on SB301.

Thank you,
Lee Luker

Beaverton OR