

Submitter: Roger Kofler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301

I am a retired native Oregonian. My primary activity in Spring and Summer is paddling my canoe on the Willamette River. While paddling I see many Seniors, families with children and other people looking for a calm, quiet time on the River, using a variety of boats both powered and unpowered.

Enter the Wake Boat: A Wake Boat carries ballast that pushes it down in the water and causes it to produce large waves. Without a limit to the amount of ballast that may be carried, a Wake Boat can produce waves that belong in the Columbia River, not the Willamette.

I believe everyone has a right to use the River with some expectation of safety. Wake Boats with unlimited amounts of ballast are not compatible with this expectation. The ballast weight limits outlined in SB 1589 seem to be a workable and fair compromise.

Please vote NO on SB 301 and its amendment, which would remove these weight limits.