

Submitter: Justin Fisher

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301

Dear Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

I am writing you to offer my support of the proposed legislation impacting Oregon waterways, recreation, especially as it pertains to the Newberg Pool. Like many of you, I am a native Oregonian. I spent the entirety of my childhood fishing, recreating, cleaning, and preserving the Willamette River from Oregon City to Newberg. My parents always urged that to use it was to use it responsibly. Take an extra trash bag, pick up more than you brought, and be respectful of all parties on the river. In addition to this, I spent time with my grandfather watching log rafts go up and down the river, through the Oregon City locks in a time where the river was actually treated as navigable waterway for both recreation and commerce. As you may or may not know, almost all commercial traffic on the river stopped in the 80's and now politicians are moving to our state and threatening to take away our recreation privileges as well. This is absolutely unacceptable and further demonstrates that the politicians in our state are committed to representing only an elitist class of transplant citizens in our state.

The river is a public space and it is my firm belief that it should remain that way. Free of the layers and layers of regulations, fees, and policies our government continues to enact. I urge you to vote pass legislation that opens the Newberg Pool and Willamette River for all recreators and start representing the entirety of the electorate.

Thank you for your service.

Justin Fisher