

Submitter: Diane McLean

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301

We have enjoyed water sports with our family for the last 40 years with our children, and now grandchildren. In this world of technology, social media, work & family & education pressures, being on a lake, river has provided much needed fun, relaxation, bonding for our family. Everyone can disconnect from the daily pressures and you listen, talk, learn, teach with one another; water ski, wakeboard, surf, innertube, play games, etc. together. No TV, phones, computers, distractions. Just positive, quality family time. To me, one of the positive effects of COVID is more people have discovered these benefits, and, add to them, an activities you can do safely. Families need our support. Not denying access to activities they choose for their families.

The boats have evolved to support these activities, and no wakeboat made today is less than 4000 pounds. In our 40+ year experience, most boat owners are respectful, law abiding citizens, concerned about safety. They follow the rules & regulations of the water. Problems occur when the few don't follow them. Enforcing present rules & regulations should be the focus of any bill brought before you before banning certain boats and therefore activities is even considered. Public waterways should stay just that--public. Open to everyone.

Banning is a slippery slope. Thank you for your consideration. Diane McLean