

Submitter: Nora Stern

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301

I am writing to oppose this measure which would severely undermine the health of the river and the significant gains made under current protection.

The current law works and is supported by science. The Newberg Pool is thriving under SB 1589 with increased safe, equitable use. The banks of the river in this section are a delicate ecosystem . Evidence clearly indicates that irreparable damage would occur from wake-producing crafts in this area.

SB 301 is a step backwards that risks public safety, habitat protection, and fair river access. A healthy river is critical to both the wildlife in the region, and to the ongoing ability to benefit economically from the river. A river that has been trashed of its beauty, the vegetation and fauna pushed out, will no longer be a destination place for fishers, paddlers, and the tourists who come to Oregon for the natural beauty for which we are reknowned.

Please reject this industry-driven effort to weaken Oregon's river protections. The Newberg Pool is one of the most heavily used and sensitive sections of the Willamette. It is no place for unchecked wake-enhancing boats.

Respectfully
Nora Stern