

Submitter: Susan Kay Huston  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301  
RE: Opposition to SB 301 – Newberg Pool and the greater Willamette River

Dear Chair, Senator Sollman ; Vice-Chair, Senator Smith ; Member, Senator Golden ; Member, Senator Pham ; Member, Senator Robinson,

My family have lived, manufactured and built business in Salem since 1890. Oregon has had better days. Unless we stand strong to preserve and protect our environmental quality on the (apologies for sounding cliché) ICONIC WILLAMETTE waterways we will lose a precious part of our identity. I am writing today to thank you for the work you do for our Beautiful state, and for the courage it takes to stand up for us, when it's inconvenient or more popular not to. I am opposed to the aggressive nature of water "recreation" and the damage it has on our waterways. I remember drinking water from buckets off the Santiam River and I implore you to oppose SB 301.

This change in legislation will impact our efforts to restore fish and wildlife to the areas they need to exist.

The Newberg Pool is a narrow section of the Willamette that has become safe for swimmers, paddlers, anglers and thousands of people who are passionate about the river's health. A larger, heavier boat is the bully of the water. The current 5,500 pound cap on wake boats in place is supported by conscience, is a helpful compromise, and has been a good one. Please allow it to continue by voting against SB-301, and the amendment 1.

It's a good decision to reject heavier, louder, larger wake boats for all the right reasons! Ironically, they destroy the stunning, safe, healthy public spaces EVERYONE. (Especially the spawning salmon, who are trying very hard to return to these areas.)

Thank you for your help,  
Susan Kay Huston