

Submitter: Brad Peters

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB301

The Newberg Pool boating regulations are overly burdensome, complex, and expensive, limiting existing boaters ability to enjoy their watercraft. Other jurisdictions with similar goals of protecting shorelines, have regulatory policies in place which can offer simpler and cheaper alternatives both for the boater and for enforcement efforts. California, Florida, Texas and Minnesota have shown that no-wake and slow-speed zones are effective in limiting damage to the shoreline; and yet these states do not impose a weight limit.

The current weight limit of 5,000lbs (dry plus ballast) eliminates 90-95% of wake sport boats from using the Newberg pool. This is the very definition of excessive and irrational legislation, as this limit does not appear to be based on research studies, but rather just a arbitrarily chosen number.

#### Recommendation

Taking these findings into account, a revised weight limit of approximately 8,000 lbs (dry weight plus ballast) appears to be a reasonable and effective threshold for Newberg Pool when used in conjunction with a 100-foot offset from boat docks. This limit is likely to:

- Reduce Erosion Risk:

Lower the kinetic energy imparted to the shoreline, thus minimizing erosion and other negative environmental impacts.

- Maintain Recreational Access:

Allow about 90% of existing wake sports boats to continue operating, preserving recreational opportunities for boaters who have already invested in their equipment.

I hope this analysis is helpful as you refine the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Brad Peters