

ANNA SCHARF
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 23



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 3, 2022

Chief Clerk Sekerak
Oregon State Capitol

RE: Vote explanation for SB 1589 (A-Engrossed)

Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I wish to submit the following explanation for my vote on SB 1589 (A-Engrossed).

SB 1589 (A-Engrossed) provides that maximum loading weight of motorboat must be less than 5,500 pounds to obtain towed watersports motorboat certificate. Authorizes State Marine Board to conduct study related to increasing or decreasing prescribed maximum loading weight. Provides that person shall carry towed watersports endorsement if engaged in any towed watersports within Newberg Pool Congested Zone. Modifies definitions of "Newberg Pool Congested Zone."

This bill has been discussed the last two sessions and is at the request of a few homeowners on this stretch of the Willamette River. Multiple amendments to this bill were proposed to get to a compromise solution but they were all rejected. In addition, the bill contains no independent state funded study that would show the actual reason for the riverbank erosion it is all based on anecdotal testimony that was rebutted by other testimony.

Finally, this bill expands the current Newberg Pool Congested zone to include many more miles of river again without a study, but conveniently includes the residence of one of the chief sponsors of the bill.

Therefore, I voted no on the bill.

Regards,

Anna