

ACTION ALERT: PROPOSED WAKESPORTS BILL FALLS SHORT

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS TO LET THEM KNOW LRB-3518 IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO PROTECT WISCONSIN'S LAKES AND THOSE THAT USE THEM

LRB 3518, a bill set to be introduced soon to the Wisconsin Legislature, would prohibit local governments from enacting boating ordinances to manage wakesports (wakeboarding and wakesurfing) with any standards beyond the 200 feet from shore prohibition allowed in the bill.

But at the same time, the bill would allow local governments to enact ordinances that are *less* protective.

This is not a bill that protects private property, public health and enjoyment of our waters, or the environment of our lakes and streams from the impacts of wakesports. This is simply a bill that limits regulation of those impactful activities. While wakesports has its place in Wisconsin and we recognize the need to balance the rights of all users of navigable waters under the Public Trust Doctrine of the Wisconsin Constitution, this bill fails to do just that.

Wisconsin Lakes believes the local governments should retain the authority to pass ordinances beyond state minimum standards, which should include a prohibition of wakesports within 500 feet of shore and in depths of 30 feet or less. Anything else goes against a wealth of sound science.

Read our full recommendations by clicking the link below.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The bill is currently out for co-sponsorship *until noon today, October 25, 2023*. You can contact your own legislators and ask them not to sign onto this bill and not to support it when it is introduced.

Useful links:

[Find your legislators in Wisconsin](#)

[Read Wisconsin Lakes' policy recommendations regarding enhanced wakes](#)

[Read our original Action Alert on this issue](#)

[Read the proposed bill](#) (Keep in mind that until it is introduced, the language could change and the authors could decide not to introduce it all)

SAVE THE DATE!
2024 Wisconsin Lakes & Rivers Convention
April 10-12, 2024
Stevens Point

~*~