

Lindsey Schreier

From: Jeff Gronbeck <jeffrey.gronbeck@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 6:49 AM
To: Lindsey Schreier
Subject: [External] 25-P045 - Vermont Use of Public Waters Rules

[External]

Please distribute to the entire LCAR Committee

Dear Members of the Vermont LCAR Committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed wake surfing boat regulations currently under consideration. While I understand and appreciate the Committee's responsibility to balance recreational use with environmental stewardship, I believe the proposed restrictions go too far and likely will create unintended consequences for Vermont families, businesses, and lake communities.

Wake surfing has become an important recreational activity enjoyed responsibly by many Vermont residents and visitors. My personal experience has been one that brings our family together across all generations. My relatives look forward to vacationing in Vermont and staying with us and getting out on the lake to fish, waterski and, at times, wake surf. Modern wake boat owners contribute meaningfully to the local economy through tourism, marina services, fuel purchases, lodging, restaurants, and property taxes. Broad restrictions or limitations on their use will negatively impact these economic benefits without sufficiently demonstrating that the proposed measures are necessary or supported by conclusive scientific evidence.

I encourage the Committee to pursue a balanced, data-driven approach rather than implementing sweeping regulations that unfairly target a specific boating segment. Nearly all wake boat owners already operate responsibly, follow existing boating laws, and support reasonable education and enforcement measures designed to protect Vermont's lakes.

Before adopting the additional restrictions set forth on the Committee's agenda, I respectfully ask the Committee put aside personal opinions with regards to wake surfing boats and determine whether the proposals are:

1. Clear and enforceable;
2. Supported by all available scientific data conclusively;
3. Consistent with existing laws already in place;
4. Understandable for boaters to ensure compliance;
5. Damaging to economically to local businesses, tourism, and lakefront communities;
6. Preserving reasonable recreational access for all Vermont residents and visitors;

Vermont's lakes are valuable shared resources, and I believe we can protect them while still allowing responsible recreational boating activities, including wake surfing. I respectfully urge the Committee to reconsider the proposed rules and seek a more balanced solution that reflects the interests of all stakeholders.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to the State of Vermont.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gronbeck

Bomoseen, VT

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