

Submitter: Morgan Madrid
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3054

Committee Members:

I'm a retired electrical engineer and occasional handyman on floating homes since 1990.

It's been my experience that inspections and aesthetic rules can be capricious and often show favoritism.

Expensive homes can be passed without inspection, and older or quirkier homes are presumed to be unsafe in some unspecified manner.

In my own life, one of the owners here at Bridgeview Moorage took a dislike to me and kept piling requirements on me as I accomplished them, in hopes of weighing me down until he could evict.

He even called my home insurer saying he'd been around houseboats his whole life and he'd never seen a houseboat as dangerous as mine.

What saved me was the other owners settling on having inspection by the insurance agent, and that the agent had the intuition that far more was afoot than a question of safety.

As for my personal opinion as to requirements, having read both electrical and Multnomah County houseboat code, is that a houseboat chimney and electrical meet a reasonable inspection regarding fire, the sewage is connected properly, and the house secured in place in a manner respecting the individuality of the float construction.

More than that should be only the concern of owner, or between buyer and seller.

Thank you.

Morgan Madrid
Bridgeview Moorage resident since 1986