

February 16, 2023

Senate Committee on Judiciary 900 Court Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: SB 754 Recreational Liability Reform

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express support for SB 754, a bill to reform liability waivers in the state of Oregon.

Hood and Portland To Coast Relays, HTC Race Series, and H2C Productions exists to create the most significant long distance running and walking relay in the world, and produce over 30 events in four countries. Our signature event each summer is the two-day relay between Timberline Lodge and Seaside. Our events are a platform to create social connection, environmental awareness and implement goal-based solutions to increase sustained wellness amongst an inclusive and multicultural community.

As with many recreation and fitness organizations around the state of Oregon, we find our liability insurance premiums increasing each year. This in turn is putting pressure on our race entry fees, which we intentionally attempt to keep low so there's no barrier for people from all socio-economic backgrounds. There is inherent risk with a road relay race, particularly one that extends through the evening over multiple days. Restoring balance to liability waivers will ensure that racers retain responsibility for participating in an inherently risky activity and organizers like Hood and Portland To Coast Relays retain responsibility for the safety of our operations. This is a fair standard that exists in every other western state but Oregon.

I urge you to support SB 754 and the hundreds of recreation and fitness providers who bring health and economic benefits to every corner of our state.

Sincerely,

Dan Floyd

Chief Operating Officer

HTC Race Series