

Submitter: Leslie Lowe

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB679

I have been involved with trail systems for over 30 years as a volunteer, as president of a trail system in Klamath Falls for the last 15 years, and as a trail user in my community and elsewhere for over 50 years. I know their value to the general public. From my perspective, we need as many trails as we can afford to create, especially along our very special Oregon coastline. Trails are a way for the public to get more involved with nature, to appreciate public land use, and to be willing to pay the taxes that support the trails. As more and more of Earth's surface becomes covered with infrastructure, whether it be industrial, residential, commercial, or highways, our natural world shrinks in its capacity to maintain clean air, open space carbon sequestration, flood control, wildlife habitat, and so many of the processes that humans depend on for their very existence. I know trails require upkeep and that can be expensive. But what is the greater cost to society if we do not make those expenditures as part of our state budget? Please support our trails as generously as you can.