

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:

My name is Tate Metcalf. I own and manage the Sisters Athletic Club in Sisters Oregon. My club serves not only it's members but the community through our outreach to the schools, seniors, the needy, the wildfire fighters, military and more. We are so important to our community that industry leaders choose the SAC out of over 8,000 clubs worldwide as the health club of the year in 2018 for our community service.

Because of the uncertainty of liability; our long-time insurance provider decided to no longer cover us. As a result, I had to find a new carrier at almost one and a half times the cost. This on the heals of the pandemic where were forced to be closed twice and given extreme limitations upon re-opening. That hardship set me back to the exact same revenue numbers as 2004 (when I first opened in the current location). All of these financial hardships has put my business in peril and has jeopardized the future of servicing the community of Sisters.

I support SB754 as it is a commonsense balance between my business and my members. My members understand the inherent risk associated with exercise just like they understand the commitment I take to mitigate any negligence.

In closing, I have lived in Oregon for 31 years and I live a very active lifestyle. A lifestyle that we promote in this state. I take full responsibility for my actions when I hike, bike, kayak, participate in triathlons and other races. The risk of losing this lifestyle is a real threat if SB754 is not approved. I am proud to have coached thousands of young athletes as well as helped thousands more lead a healthy and active lifestyle. Please protect Oregon and the healthy lifestyle by approving SB754.

Appreciably,

Tate Metcalf, Owner and Manager

Sisters Athletic Club