

Submitter: Donna Scurlock

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB679

Testimony in support of SB 679 – Oregon Coast Trail

February 20, 2023

Donna Scurlock

I'm pleased to support SB 679, and all efforts to enhance the Oregon Coast Trail. I have been fortunate enough to through-hike trails for weeks at a time, both domestically and internationally. It's human to compare these adventures, and when I do, my time hiking the entire Oregon Coast Trail stands out as one of the best.

The Oregon Coast trail is used both for day hikes and for those of us who cover it on foot from

North to South, day after day. There are those portions of the trail that truly do require re-routing or other safety-minded improvements to encourage even more through-hikers to enjoy this amazing asset.

I certainly spend my dollars in the towns along the way, especially in Southern Oregon where the coast is particularly gorgeous and the towns might particularly enjoy our tourist monies.

Hiking from inn to inn and having luggage transfer service from one sleeping accommodation to the next would be especially welcome as my body ages and the ability to carry a lot of weight on my back diminishes.

The Oregon Coast Action Plan is a good one. It will bring low-impact visitors with resources to our communities on the coast and will brighten the smiles of both hikers and community members along the coast.

Funding the entire proposal will bring added value to our coastal environment. Thank you.