

Submitter: Shirley VanGarde
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB1576

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and members of the committee.
Trails are a large part of what makes Oregon so special. SB1576 can help preserve this.

Oregon has incredible natural vistas; many accessible by trails. In some cases these trails cross public and privately owned land.

I've opened my front yard to walkers as it connects a large motel parking lot with easy walking trails to the beach. Physically fit hikers are usually able to walk around private land to reach their destination, but that is not the usual motel visitor next door to my home. Parents trying to corral children and sand pails and the dog whose schedule is disrupted, and grandma are grateful for the easy pathway across my yard to reach maintained trails to the beach. Last year a pedestrian was hit on 101 right behind my house; there are no sidewalks in this area.

Please pass SB1576-3 with language that clearly restores recreational immunity for public and private landowners and clearly applies to both improved and unimproved trails.

Thank you,
Shirley VanGarde, Yachats OR