



## Disciples of Dirt Mountain Bike Club

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the committee:

Title: Support for -3 Recreational Immunity Fix Amendment to SB 1576

My name is Lee Wilkinson, and I serve as a board member for Disciples of Dirt, a mountain bike club that primarily represents mountain bike riders in the Southern Willamette Valley. On behalf of Disciples of Dirt and our community of outdoor enthusiasts, I am writing to urge your support for an amendment to SB 1576 that addresses the critical issue of recreational immunity.

Disciples of Dirt is committed to the stewardship of sustainable, multiple-use trails, advocating for access to outdoor recreation, and promoting responsible trail use. Trails are not just paths through the outdoors; they are the lifeblood of our community, providing opportunities for physical activity, mental rejuvenation, and connection with nature.

Trails are where families bond, friendships are forged, and individuals find solace, adventure and challenge themselves. They are essential to the well-being of our community and the vibrancy of our local economy.

However, recent legal challenges have cast uncertainty on the future of trail access across Oregon. Ambiguities in the recreational immunity law have left landowners and trail managers vulnerable to liability, hindering their ability to develop, maintain and enhance trails for public use.

We urgently need a fix to Oregon's recreational immunity law to protect our trails and ensure that landowners have the consideration and confidence to continue providing access to their properties. SB 1576-3 presents an opportunity to address this issue by restoring recreational immunity for both public and private landowners, covering both improved and unimproved trails.

**I respectfully urge you to pass SB 1576-3 with language that clearly restores recreational immunity for public and private landowners and clearly applies to both improved and unimproved trails.** By doing so, you will safeguard the future of outdoor recreation in Oregon and uphold the values of stewardship and responsible trail that all Oregonians need and desire.

Thank you for your consideration and for your leadership in addressing this critical issue. Together, we can ensure that future generations have access to the unparalleled beauty and adventure that Oregon's trails have to offer.

Respectfully,

Lee Wilkinson  
President  
Disciples of Dirt Mountain Bike Club