



2/12/24

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

The Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association would like to voice our support for -3 Recreational Immunity Fix Amendment to SB 1576.

Our mission at RVMBA is to build, maintain, and expand a world-class system of mountain bike trails that support and enhance the physical, mental, and economic health of Rogue Valley communities.

In small Southern Oregon cities like Grants Pass, Ashland, and Klamath Falls, outdoor recreation and tourism has become vital to the economy. Without recreational immunity, trails will close, access will be limited and the lifeblood of these areas will be at risk.

Limited public resources and taxpayer funds are a reality for many of our communities. Continued trail maintenance, development, and advocacy are dependent on stretching small budgets and soliciting volunteer labor. Fighting lawsuits is not financially feasible.

Private, City, and Federal lands in our valley intersect to create a network of trails that are interdependent on each other to maintain overall access. It is essential that each piece of the puzzle remain open so that the whole is preserved.

We would encourage you to please pass SB 1576-3 with language that clearly restores recreational immunity for public and private landowners.

Thank you for your work and for considering this amendment.

Sincerely,

RVMBA (Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association)