

Submitter: Mandy Mock
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB1576

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

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

My name is Mandy Mock, and I am a 28 year resident of Oregon. During my time here, I have spent innumerable hours on trails all across Oregon, as well as leading many scouting trips on the trails. Our trails are a true state treasure, enjoyed by everyone.

However, recreating in constantly changing outdoor environments also carries possible risk of injury. Without recreational immunity, landowners fear the real risk of expensive lawsuits and cannot afford to keep their trails and lands open to the public. They are especially concerned about increased liability of making trail improvements like bridges, railings, and boardwalks, even though such construction both can better protect sensitive habitat and make trails recreation destinations like beaches, rivers, etc more accessible to all ages and abilities.

This bill provides a critical emergency fix, and we're also eager to see a permanent fix to provide landowners with the assurance they need to plan for future recreation access.

Please 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

Thank you for your consideration!
Mandy