

Submitter: Jessica Locke
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB1576

I am writing to ask you to please pass SB 1576A to restore recreational immunity for public and private landowners. I moved to Oregon last year, establishing residency a few months ago. I am an avid trail runner, training several days a week for upcoming ultramarathon trail races. I frequently run on trails in my neighborhood (including those managed by my neighborhood association), city-maintained parks and natural areas, research forests, and forests managed by Starker. Having access to these trails is one of the reasons I chose to move where I did. My family also uses these trails for recreation. Many other people feel the same about these trails.

Having moved across the country and chosen to settle in Oregon because of these land resources, I was surprised that the use of all of these trails by the public is in danger due to the loss of recreational immunity for landowners in Oregon. With the loss of protection from liability of recreational immunity, it is becoming difficult for them to leave their lands open to the public. If the community loses access to these lands it will be a huge loss in terms of places to exercise safely, learn about and experience nature, and also likely a loss of touristic destinations that bring people to Oregon. Please pass SB1576A to protect landowners so they can continue to allow the public to recreate on their lands.