

Submitter: Suellen Rinker

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB179

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Suellen Rinker, an Oregon native and I am writing in support of SB 179. This legislation would remove the sunset of the temporary recreational immunity statute adopted by the legislature last year, and make it a permanent solution.

I, like many other Oregonians enjoy, enjoy the many recreational activities our beautiful state offers, almost all of which require access through the use of trails. I do recognizing that some of these activities carry 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.

While I support the current bill, I would also urge you to consider amendments to strengthen its impact, including:

- Extend the increased level of immunity in Section 1 of the bill to private landowners who open their land to the public free of charge
- Clarify more strongly that trails that serve dual purpose as both recreation and transportation facilities are covered under the law; address the problem of subjective intent
- Include broader language like "conveyance" rather than the specific trail activities like walking, biking, and running currently spelled out in the "includes but is not limited to" recreational activities list

Thank you very much for your consideration.