

Submitter: Kim McCarrel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3140

Dear Chair Nguyen, Vice Chairs Dielh and Isadore, and Members of the Committee:

Like many people, when I go someplace on vacation, I like to find an outfitter who can allow me to experience the place I'm visiting from the back of a horse. I've ridden in Bryce Canyon, Hawaii, Ireland, and the Republic of Georgia. I've even ridden to the pyramids in Cairo. However, opportunities like this are few and far between in Oregon. I'm told that insurance costs and Oregon's liability issues are the the reason.

Horseback riding is my "thing," but Oregon's current liability situation is impacting people whose "thing" is fishing, hunting, kayaking, river rafting, skiing, and other outdoor activities. When people come here to visit, they don't want to sit in their hotel rooms. They want to experience the beauty of our wonderful state while engaging in the activities they love.

Oregon's economy relies heavily on tourism, but many of the activities tourists enjoy are being negatively impacted by our lack of immunity protections. This bill will enable guides, outfitters, and other small businesses to provide the services that visitors to Oregon want. Please support HB 3140.

Kim McCarrel