

February 16, 2025

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 3140

Chair Nguyen, Vice Chairs Diehl and Isadore, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3140, which would provide important and needed recreational liability reform.

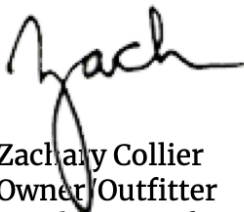
We are a small business that guides people through Oregon's public lands and waterways on overnight rafting trips. These trips are important for people to get outside, connect with nature, and leave behind our fast-paced technological world. In addition to providing much needed experiences to the public, our trips financially support rural communities throughout Oregon through purchasing of food and supplies needed for our trips and filling hotels and restaurants with our guests.

Since we are taking people into wild places on adventurous trips there are some risks beyond our control. Our guests who choose a trip like this understand the risk and choose to accept these risks. Our liability waivers allow us to warn our guests of these risks and allow them to accept them. If our liability waivers are not enforceable, it opens up our business to frivolous litigation, and in turn, increases our insurance rates, our risk pool, and the cost of running our businesses.

We operate similar trips in Idaho where there is a balanced approach between personal responsibility and business accountability. The current liability situation in Oregon makes it increasingly more difficult to operate adventure trips - affecting small businesses like mine and the rural communities we operate in.

I respectfully ask for your support of HB 3140.

Sincerely,



Zachary Collier
Owner/Outfitter
Northwest Rafting Company