

Submitter: Chelsea Taylor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB179

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Chelsea Taylor, and I am writing in support of strengthening recreational immunity protections to ensure Oregon's trails remain open. While the bill, as written, appropriately removes the sunset provision from the current law, its language leaves it vulnerable to future legal challenges. To prevent this, I urge you to extend the increased level of immunity in Section 1 of the bill to private landowners who allow public access to their land free of charge.

Additionally, I encourage the Committee to address two key concerns:

**Clarifying Coverage for Dual-Purpose Trails** – Trails that serve both recreational and transportation purposes should be explicitly protected under the law to eliminate uncertainty regarding their status.

**Broadening Activity Language** – Instead of listing specific trail uses such as walking, biking, and running, using more inclusive language like "conveyance" would better reflect the variety of ways people use trails and reduce ambiguity in legal interpretation.

Strengthening these protections will provide long-term certainty for landowners and ensure that Oregonians can continue to enjoy and rely on our state's trails. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Chelsea Taylor