



Board of Directors

February 18, 2025

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Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE, S-413
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: SB 179, Recreational Immunity

To Whom It May Concern,

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

On behalf of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD), the largest special park district in Oregon, we are writing to express our support for SB 179, which makes permanent the changes enacted in SB 1576 (2024). These changes are crucial to ensuring continued recreational immunity for public and private landowners who offer their lands to the public at no charge, and we deeply appreciate the leadership and collaboration of Senator Prozanski in this effort.

THPRD, serving approximately 270,000 residents across 50 square miles in and around Beaverton, Oregon, is committed to providing high-quality parks, recreational facilities, and natural areas that meet the diverse needs of our community. With over 3,600 acres of properties, including more than 90 park sites and over 70 miles of trails, our mission is to offer spaces where residents can gather, play, and explore.

SB 179 is critical to preserving these opportunities by:

- Including "walking, running, and biking" in the definition of recreational purposes (ORS 105.672); and,
- Including improved trails in the recreational immunity provided by ORS 105.688.

THPRD recognizes that there are ways in which these provisions could be further strengthened, and we would like to be engaged in any future conversations on recreational immunity, however, we appreciate the assurance that SB 179 provides for entities like THPRD and parks and recreation providers across the state.

We urge your support of SB 179 and thank you for your leadership on this important issue and your collaboration with stakeholders like THPRD. Please contact Aisha Panas, Deputy General Manager, at a.panas@thprd.org or by phone at 503-816-5804, if you have any questions. We appreciate your consideration of our testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbie Minor".

Barbie Minor, President
THPRD Board of Directors