

Emerson Levy
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
House District 53



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning on House Bill 3140. For the record, my name is Emerson Levy, and I am the State Representative for House District 53, representing parts of Bend, Redmond, and Sisters. Many people move to my district for the incredible outdoor recreation opportunities, and I come here with the support of many organizations in my district.

Oregon's liability waiver standards are unique and not aligned with the rest of the Western States. The goal with this bill is to bring Oregon into alignment with California and Washington.

Central Oregon's economy depends heavily on recreation and outdoor activities like skiing, hiking, mountain biking, and rafting. Outdoor operators are facing steadily rising insurance costs, and it's becoming increasingly difficult for them to keep their doors open. This bill encourages economic stability in the region and throughout the state, which is why it is so heavily supported by the operators and recreation users that depend on them.

The study required in this bill is crucial for our regional economic growth. With growing wildfire concern and change in our snowfall patterns, we need to understand how this is going to affect our local small and large businesses.

I highly encourage your support of this bill and I'm available for any follow up questions. Thank you.

Emerson Levy

State Representative, House District 53