

Submitter: Kelsey Wood
On Behalf Of: Gordon Wood Insurance and Financial Services
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB174

March 6, 2025

Senate Judiciary Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Chair Prozanski, Members of the Committee:

My name is Kelsey Wood and I am the principal agent at Gordon Wood Insurance in Roseburg. We are an independent, family-owned agency, now with the third generation of our family as part of the business. We offer our customers offer Auto, Home, Life, Health, Medicare, and Business Insurance services. I am writing to offer my strong opposition to Senate Bill 174.

To say the insurance market has gotten tougher in recent years would be an understatement. The rising costs seen across our economy have been compounded in the insurance industry by record losses from disasters. These have been some of the hardest years in the history of our business for providing affordable solutions for our clients.

Opening up insurance to more lawsuits will negatively impact our customers. Helping customers with claims resolution is part of our work and one we take seriously and our customers greatly appreciate! But allowing for more lawsuits, more trial-lawyer led discovery, and cross claims for negligence will not make things better for consumers. They will make it longer for claims to be resolve, and drive up the costs incurred in getting to resolution **AND WE WILL CEASE OUR CLAIMS ASSISTANCE!** All of that translates into higher premiums, more time waiting to receive payment, and less help, and unhappy customers – something we take very seriously.

Please vote no on Senate Bill 174.

Kelsey Wood
Principal Agent
Gordon Wood Insurance & Financial Services