

Submitter:

Carol Foley

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB179

Dear Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and members of the committee, As a lifelong Oregonian, trails and parks have been essential to me. It is also a point of pride that Oregon is known for its trails and parks. I support this bill because it removes a sunset provision that is unnecessary. We need to permanently protect the cities, counties, landowners, and the state from lawsuits when people use the spaces as intended--for both recreation and transportation. Please vote the bill out of committee. In fact, please consider adding provisions that would make it an even better bill:

- o Extend the increased level of immunity in Section 1 of the bill to private landowners who open their land to the public free of charge
- o Clarify more strongly that trails that serve a dual purpose as both recreation and transportation facilities are covered under the law; address the problem of subjective intent

Although it may not need mentioning, trails and parks serve another purpose: To appreciate our environment and boost mental/physical well-being. Thank you for accepting this testimony.

Carol Foley