



# greenbelt land trust

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April 23, 2025

To: House Committee on Judiciary  
From: Greenbelt Land Trust

**RE: Support for Recreational Immunity Protections through S.B. 179A**

Chair Kropf and Committee Members:

Greenbelt Land Trust is a regional conservation organization with a mission of conserving the lands and waters of the Willamette Valley for a more resilient future. We write to you today in strong support of S.B. 179A, a bill that would make permanent enhanced recreational immunity protections for public and private landowners.

**As of 2023, there were 90 land trust properties open for public use in Oregon.** The Oregon Public Use of Lands Act encourages public and private landowners to make their land available to the public for recreational purposes by providing landowners immunity from liability.

At Greenbelt Land Trust we provide public access to several of our protected properties, including hosting some of the most popular public trails in Benton County. **We depend on the Oregon Public Use of Lands Act and recreational immunity to enable us to be providers of trail access for all.**

S.B. 179A would continue the protections passed during the 2024 legislative session by removing the sunset of January 2026.

Greenbelt Land Trust is committed to providing access to nature for everyone in our communities, and in order to provide this vital public resource, we need the important safeguards that recreational immunity provides to landowners.

We urge this Committee to pass S.B. 179A and make permanent the recreational immunity protections that allow our land trusts and private landowners across Oregon to safely open their lands for public use and enjoyment. Thank you for your consideration and the time to testify.

Sincerely,

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