

Submitter:

Gretchen Dubier

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB179

View the Future, 501©3 is land trust located in the greater Yachats area dedicated to environmental and cultural preservation and assisting in creating recreational amenities. Currently, we are holders of 5 irrevocable conservation easements of which 3 have recreational trails. All are important to connectivity to other trails and have bolstered the economy of our area. Seven private landowners have given permanent recreational easements in our Yachats community. They did so as the right thing to do but also because of the recreational immunity act. View the Future feels strongly that without the recreational immunity act, none of those recreational easements would have existed, leaving a huge reduction in the number of recreational trails in our area. Yachats would now be a different community with only one dead-end walking path for its residents and visitors to enjoy east of Highway 101 and certainly a reduction in its visitor amenities. There would be no annual New Year's Day Peace Hike now in its 16th year. If the recreational Immunity Act does not pass, there will be no private landowners that will dare authorize public recreational access on their properties, and cities and counties will need to evaluate what recreational access is safe for them to keep open. View the Future knows that we will have those three landowners coming to us with valid concerns about keeping their recreational trails open. Please support the SB 179.