The City of Yachats has an extensive trail system that provides many opportunities for both residents and visitors to experience the outdoors while, at the same time, engaging in activities that benefit their mental and physical health. The trail system is also an economic driver for the community; the most commonly asked questions at our Visitor Center are about our trails. As one of the leaders of the Yachats Trails Crew, a volunteer group that develops, maintains, and promotes local trails, I am acutely aware of the importance of trails across private properties; several of our trails cross private property on easements provided their owners.

These property owners who so generously allow public access need and deserve the protections that SB 179 will provide. I support this legislation in the strongest possible way and urge you too as well.