

Submitter:

Patrick Baird

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB179

My name is Patrick Baird, I am a lifelong resident of Wallowa County and an avid outdoor recreationist. Over the last few years, mountain biking has increasingly become a go-to method of recreation, exercise, and communion with nature for myself. In Wallowa County, we have little infrastructure and access for mountain biking and a small but dedicated group of us have been working with local landowners to one day develop access and new trails. The passing of SB 179 would go a very long towards developing these partnerships. Without these protections private landowners have little reason, and understandably so, to open up their properties to recreation, limiting our county's access to an incredibly rewarding and healthy sport (though I have focused my testimony on mountain biking, the same is true for any number of recreational activities). Thank you.