



April 24, 2025

House Committee on Judiciary
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE,
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 179

Dear Chair Kropf and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Beaverton to express strong support for Senate Bill 179, which aims to make permanent the temporary changes made to the landowner immunity laws passed by the 2024 Legislative Session in HB 1537. This bill is crucial for ensuring that local governments can provide essential services to parks, trails, and open spaces without incurring the inherent liabilities of recreating.

I would like to emphasize that the city supports the removal of the sunset date for these changes. Making these changes permanent will provide stability and assurance to local governments, allowing them to continue offering and maintaining recreational spaces for the public. However, as recreation continues to evolve, we would like to see a more comprehensive approach to defining the intent of recreational immunity for outdoor sports and activities rather than continuing to add to a list of covered actions. It is the city's responsibility to provide reasonably safe conditions for public consumption, but we cannot continue to incur the general liability that is associated with the acts of recreating and continue to provide services the community relies on.

Thank you for considering our support for Senate Bill 179. We believe that this bill will have a positive impact on our community by promoting outdoor recreation and enabling local governments to provide and maintain these spaces without the burden of liability concerns. We hope to continue the conversation into the future as we strike the right balance between personal and public liability. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jenny Haruyama". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jenny Haruyama