

Submitter: Tonya Graham

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB179

On behalf of the City of Ashland, I urge support of SB 179. This important legislation restores recreational immunity for local government that own, manage, and make accessible recreational lands. Ashland has a large number of parks for our residents and visitors and their continued accessibility will be threatened if allowing the public to use them presents greater potential liability to the City, particularly in these currently challenging times.

In addition, many of our residents enjoy recreational opportunities offered by private landowners. Many of these landowners allow the public to access trails through their property, which adds to the experience of both residents and visitors alike in southern Oregon. Creating a permanent fix to the issue of recreational immunity protects recreational opportunities on both city-owned and private lands. Recreational immunity is a very important issue to local governments and I am hopeful the Legislature will act to protect it permanently.

Tonya Graham
Mayor
City of Ashland