

Submitter: Vanessa Fron  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

Dear Chairman Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Vanessa, and I work for a small, family owned, local tour company in Bend called Wanderlust Tours. The issue of unenforceable liability waivers in Oregon has affected our business and is becoming unsustainable. There is a general legal liability, on top of things like increasing insurance costs. SB 1517 address the liability issue only for ski areas and does nothing to address the same issue for thousands of other small businesses and nonprofits including outfitters, guides, trail organizations, climbing gyms, bike parks, volunteer groups and others. It's actually absurd for you to offer a solution for only one part of outdoor recreation and nothing else. Especially when ski resorts are the most well off to battle a lawsuit, and not be as affected by increasing insurance costs. It's an absolute slap in the face to small business owners, nonprofits, etc. It is a distraction from and ignores your support for the ORCA2026 act. I strongly urge you, as our elected officials who are supposed to speak up on behalf of the public, to oppose HB 1517 and instead support SB 1593 and HB 4701. The people of Oregon love recreating, folks travel from all over the world to recreate here. It's your duty to support the organizations that provide for these people, and contribute enormously to the economy.

Respectfully,  
Vanessa