

Submitter: Lisa Riversong Franklin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government
Measure, Appointment or SB1593
Topic:

I strongly suggest you to support this legislation for the sake of valid reform and continued exceptional recreation in our beautiful state of Oregon. Thank you.

“A MESSAGE FOR OREGONIANS: WHY PRICES ARE INCREASING (edited for verb tense consistency) from Timberline Lodge:

On June 1, Timberline Lodge and Ski Area was notified that its insurance carrier would be leaving Oregon effective October 1, 2025, a casualty of the state’s broken recreational liability system. Without reform, Oregon has become an untenable place for insurers. Timberline, along with other tourism and outdoor operators, have warned for more than a decade that this day would come. Without state-level liability policy reform, conditions will continue to deteriorate.

Timberline was able to secure coverage for the coming ski season, but only at an extraordinarily high cost. Today, its liability insurance premium has increased by more than two and a half times, a 166% jump and now 10 times higher than last year. Since 2020, its liability insurance has increased 586%. These changes create unsustainable financial pressure. Timberline is absorbing as much of this cost as possible, but cannot shoulder all of it. This is not the fault of our recreational insurance carriers, many of which have already been forced to leave the state. Guests will see increases in peak time lift ticket pricing, tier 2 season pass pricing, and summer ski products. We want you to know: Timberline remains committed to delivering the best possible mountain experience. But without long-term solutions from the State Legislature, the impacts will be unavoidable; higher costs, reduced offerings, and diminished opportunities for recreation in Oregon. This threatens not only skiers and riders, but also rural communities, jobs and families...”