

Submitter: Kelly Tilden

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1593

Just 30 years ago, I drove cross-country to visit Oregon and to experience the beauty of Mount Hood, the Willamette Valley and Portland. I never left. I worked as a social worker and Timberline Lodge let me bring foster youth in the Independent Living program up every winter for free snowboarding lessons. None of those kids had been on the mountain until we started those trips. Those days were magical and the experience of learning, trying, failing and then improving made a difference. Years later, my husband and I taught our sons to ski and snow board on Mount Hood and Mt. Bachelor. We have also spent countless days hiking and then feeding our always starving sons at Timberline Lodge. Like countless other families, we recognize how fortunate we are to have these resorts and ability to enjoy the outdoors like this. We also know how many families work at these resorts or in businesses tied to these resorts. Why would we not align Oregon with other states and adopt ORCA? Oregon has been reeling since the poorly informed COVID shutdowns- I am still reminded daily when I drive to work in downtown Portland of how our legislature with its ill conceived policies destroyed our city. Please do not take more away from us. This legislation is balanced and reasonable- please vote for it and not against an industry that has brought so many to our state and such joy to our families. Sincerely, Kelly Tilden