



February 8, 2026

Support for SB 1593 with amendment to include guardian waivers

Dear Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazan, and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Trails Coalition advisory council includes representatives from more than thirty federal, state, and local agencies, trail user groups, outdoor industry and tourism partners, and volunteer organizations. We represent walkers, bikers, runners, paddlers, equestrians, adaptive equipment users, skiers, snowmobilers, and motorized trail enthusiasts.

We are writing today to share our support for SB 1593 and request an amendment to include waivers signed by legal guardians.

The Oregon Trails Coalition includes public agencies, non-profits, and small businesses that are all heavily invested in providing safe and welcoming outdoor experiences, whether that means teaching volunteers how to use trail tools to maintain our trails, introducing a new generation to mountain biking or horseback riding, or leading whole families on guided hikes or paddles to learn about Oregon's wildlife.

The current state of Oregon's liability laws are completely out of balance leaving providers of valuable outdoor experiences exposed to untenable levels of risk.

Therefore we support SB 1593 to bring Oregon's waiver laws in line with neighboring states, allowing waivers to be enforced and improving insurability and reducing liability risk for non-profit organizations, public agencies, and small businesses who offer outdoor recreation and stewardship programming.

We ask that the bill be amended to include waivers signed by guardians for minors and adults under guardianship, as we put great value on families participating together in outdoor recreation and stewardship activities.

Thank you,

Stephanie Noll,
Director, Oregon Trails Coalition