

Submitter: Paul Gannett
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government
Measure, Appointment or SB1593
Topic:

Dear Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazan, and members of the committee,

I am a Multnomah County resident, and avid enthusiast of many of the recreational opportunities our state offers. I am writing in strong support of SB 1593.

Every week I go to a Portland-area indoor rock climbing gyms. I paddle and swim in our rivers in the summer and downhill ski in the winter. I moved to this state as an adult for the access to these outdoor activities and the many groups working throughout Oregon to keep these activities accessible for all.

Over the past 7 years living here I have seen recreational areas be closed and prices rise due to increased costs and liability from unenforceable waivers. It is imperative that we take action now to correct the current precedent. Every outdoor enthusiast knows there are inherent risks to outdoor activities and they must actively manage those risks. Our state should not expect our outdoor recreation vendors, large and small, to keep shouldering all the responsibility from these inherently risky activities.

I am in full support of better aligning Oregon's policy with our other Western neighbor states and federal policy like the EXPLORE Act of 2024. Please support SB 1593 to protect our outdoor recreation economy and lively outdoor spirit.

Thank you for your attention and your service.