

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

My name is Max King, and I am with Max King Trail Running Camps and the Bend Marathon. I strongly support the Oregon Recreation Commerce and Affordability Act of 2026 (ORCA), SB 1593.

I am an outfitter and guide and recreation event director. I host youth trail running camps that rely on the ability to attain affordable insurance that protects my family. I love getting kids into the outdoors to appreciate what Oregon has to offer and giving them a safe way to do so.

Our industry is under increasing pressure from rising insurance and legal costs. Without fixing Oregon's recreation liability framework, many guiding and recreation businesses face the real risk of becoming uninsurable. The lack of enforceable waivers drives costs higher, suppresses wages, and limits access and affordability for Oregonians and visitors alike.

ORCA is a simple, balanced solution that is already proven to work. It reflects what every other Western state currently does—and what Oregon itself used to do. Passing ORCA would bring Oregon in line with neighboring states and the federal government, while preserving accountability and safety.

I also support the provision directing the state to conduct an economic study to better quantify Oregon's large and sustainable outdoor recreation economy.

Thank you for your time and for considering this important legislation.

Respectfully,
Max King
Max King Trail Running Camp / Bend Marathon