



February 10, 2026

Dear Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazan, and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government

I am writing to urge support for SB 1593. As we all know, Oregon is an incredible place to live, work, visit, and retire. A big part of the desire to be in Oregon is due to our state's spectacular outdoor beauty and opportunities for recreation.

Here in Ashland, much of our visitor economy is related to outdoor recreation, but current state regulations put local small businesses that provide recreational experiences at a significant disadvantage in comparison to similar operators in neighboring states.

It is more expensive and riskier to operate an outdoor recreation business in Oregon because of these liability regulations and insurance is becoming increasingly difficult for these companies to find and afford. That hinders our local economies, particularly in smaller communities that rely on outdoor recreation industries.

Please support this common sense bill to level the playing field for Oregon's recreational businesses while protecting consumers against gross negligence. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Tonya Graham
Mayor

CITY COUNCIL

20 East Main Street
Ashland, Oregon 97520
ashland.or.us
TonyaForAshland.com

Tel: 541.488.6002
Fax: 541.488.5311
TTY: 800.735.2900

tonya@council.ashland.or.us
council@ashland.or.us (email all of Council)

