

Submitter: Dave Tragethon

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1517 (-6 and -7 Amendments)

?To the Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

?My name is Dave Tragethon, and I have spent more than 40 years working in Oregon's recreation industry. I am writing to respectfully urge you to oppose SB 1517 and its current amendments (-6 and -7).

?While the intention to address the liability crisis is appreciated, SB 1517 is fundamentally short-sighted. After four decades in this industry, I can tell you that "half-measures" do not satisfy insurance underwriters. The -6 and -7 amendments fail to provide the absolute clarity and predictability that insurers require to re-enter the Oregon market. By including "opt-out" fees and complicated statutory duties that invite more litigation, this bill creates a "patchwork" solution that leaves Oregon recreation uninsurable.

?Furthermore, we cannot afford to pick winners and losers. Whether it is a ski resort, a rafting guide, or a local climbing gym, the risk profile remains the same. SB 1517 falls short of the comprehensive reform found in SB 1593-A—a bill that actually aligns us with our neighbors in Washington and California.

?If we continue down the path of SB 1517, the devastating consequences for future access to our public lands and outdoor activities will be irreversible. We need certainty, not more complexity. Please refocus your efforts on the passage of SB 1593-A and reject the flawed approach of SB 1517.

?Thank you,

Dave Tragethon
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