

Submitter: Glenn Fee
On Behalf Of: Tualatin Riverkeepers
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and members of the Committee,

I'm writing to respectfully share the opposition of Tualatin Riverkeepers to SB 1517.

As a conservation organization, our mission and our north star will always be the protection of the Tualatin River watershed. We also know that people protect what they love. Last year alone, we hosted 3,000 participants on paddle trips and another 1,900 as habitat restoration volunteers.

We're deeply concerned that SB 1517 and its proposed amendments do not address the liability risk or insurance issues that many conservation organizations share. The fact that we continue to be exposed to a high level of liability risk is the reason we worked to bring 32 conservation organizations together during this session to call for reasonable waiver reform.

I urge your support of changes to Oregon waiver laws that will put us in line with neighboring states, allowing waivers to be enforced, improving insurability and reducing liability risk for organizations that work to increase access and volunteer stewardship in the outdoors.

Respectfully,

Glenn Fee
Executive Director
Tualatin Riverkeepers