

Submitter: Lisa Hargrave  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Pham, and members of the Committee,

As an avid skier and whitewater enthusiast I am alarmed by the threats to our outdoor industry stemming from the ridiculous liability insurance situation in Oregon.

We need liability waiver reform that aligns Oregon's laws with those of other states. We are in danger of losing the last insurance companies that will cover our ski areas, guide services, fishing charters, etc.

In this session, the Protect Oregon Recreation coalition has consistently shared support for the policy language in SB 1593A as a workable solution that would meet the needs of the outdoor recreation community.

SB 1517A, will not provide outdoor businesses with greater certainty or reduce their insurance costs. In particular the many ill-conceived exceptions as to what can be included in waivers would put the ski areas at even greater risk than they currently are. I have been a volunteer ski patroller for 40 years and can tell you some of the requirements are entirely unrealistic in the natural environment.

Since the preferred bill has been sent to die in the Judiciary committee, I support moving SB 1517A forward with the -A11 or -A15 amendments. The -A11 amendment contains the language the outdoor industry has been asking for all along. While I prefer -A11 amendment, the broad applicability of -A15 would be acceptable if it were agreed to as a road to compromise.

Signed,  
Lisa Hargrave  
Hood River, Oregon