

Submitter: Gregg Kleiner

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,

It's time to step up! Recreational liability protections are vital to both the physical and mental health of Oregonians. You love our state, right? OK, then please act!

We MUST have liability waiver reform that aligns Oregon's laws with other states, reducing costs and creating greater certainty for small organizations. That in turn allows us to continue protecting access and opportunity for recreation and stewardship activities alike. During this session I have consistently shared my support for the policy language in SB 1593A as a workable solution that would meet our needs.

The issue is that SB 1517A, as passed the senate with the -7, will NOT PROVIDE organizations with greater certainty or reduce insurance costs. There is NO PROTECTION for stewardship activities and the many explicit exceptions to what can be included in waivers would put us at even greater risk than the already untenable status quo.

However I could support the moving of SB 1517A forward WITH the -A11 or -A15 amendments. The -A11 amendment contains the language we've asking for all along, and we're also willing to trade the certainties of SB 1593A for the broad applicability of -A15 if that is the legislature's provided route toward a compromise.

PLEASE stand up and do the right thing so that Oregonians benefit in many ways,

Thank you for your leadership.