



**OREGON
OUTDOOR
ALLIANCE**



Written Testimony in Opposition of SB 1517A.

Date: March 2, 2026

From: Oregon Outdoor Alliance and Bend Outdoor Worx

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

Oregon Outdoor Alliance (OOA) is a 300 member 501C(3) non-profit with the mission to **Connect and Cultivate Oregon's Outdoor Industry**. Our membership is made up of Outdoor Gear & Apparel brands, service agencies, and individuals that are directly involved in Oregon's Outdoor Gear & Apparel industry. Our membership, and its impact in the state of Oregon, is additive to the states \$8B Outdoor Recreation Economy that is under threat due to rising insurance costs and availability impacting service providers and individuals.

Bend Outdoor Works (BOW) is the nation's first Outdoor Industry brand accelerator that has advised and supported 30+ brands in Oregon. Those emerging brands are supporting job growth and selling products or service inside and outside Oregon.

We need liability waiver reform that aligns Oregon's laws with other states, reducing costs and creating greater certainty for the organizations and individuals that use our products. This in turn creates jobs and benefits Oregon.

OOA and BOW support the policy language in SB 1593-A as a workable solution that would meet our memberships desired outcomes.

SB 1517 A, as currently written, will not provide recreation providers greater security or reduce their insurance costs, which puts their businesses at even greater risk than the already untenable status quo.

However we would support moving SB 1517 forward with the -A11 or -A15 amendments. The -A11 amendment contains acceptable language, and we're also willing to trade the certainties of SB 1593-A for the broad applicability of -A15 amendment if that is the legislature's preferred route toward a compromise.

Sincerely,

Mike Wallenfels

President, Oregon Outdoor Alliance (OOA)

Gary Bracelin

Co-Founder, Bend Outdoor Works (BOW)