

Submitter: JODI KNUTSON
On Behalf Of: OET
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

SB 1517-A as currently written does not provide adequate protections for organizations leading outdoor recreation and stewardship activities. In fact, it contains exceptions to waivers that may put our organizations and our volunteer board officers at even greater risk if passed as currently written. The amendments that make SB1517 similar to SB1593 would be helpful.

I am a member of Oregon Equestrian Trails, an all-volunteer nonprofit dedicated to maintaining trails on public land. SB 1593-A provides critical and balanced liability risk protections for non-profit trails organizations and public agencies increasing outdoor access and volunteerism for Oregonians while protecting individuals' rights to redress in cases of gross negligence, criminal negligence, or willful acts that put them at risk.

Please don't leave our organization shouldering this level of risk! We provide safe and welcoming access to the outdoors for Oregonians while leveraging thousands of volunteer hours to care for public lands. Please ensure that the protections in SB 1593-A have a path forward to being adopted into law this session.

Thank you!
Jodi Knutson