

Submitter: Robert Stahly

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

Creating safe and welcoming access to the outdoors for all Oregonians and visitors is a civic duty. Maintaining trails and waterways for safety, access, and ecosystem health is a key competitive advantage for our region and we must protect it wisely.

We need liability waiver reform that aligns Oregon's laws with other states, reducing costs and creating greater certainty for small organizations. This will allow us to protect access and opportunity for recreation and stewardship activities.

SB 1517-7 as currently written does not offer adequate protections for stewardship activities and the many exceptions to what can be included in waivers would put us at even greater risk.

I would be supportive of moving SB 1517 forward with the -A11 or -A15 amendments. Recreational liability protections enhance public safety by ensuring that outfitters, volunteer coordinators, and other trained professionals are able to continue to effectively guide group programming in the outdoors and steward Oregon's natural spaces we treasure.

Thank you for your leadership, service, and consideration.