



CITY OF  
**West Linn**

March 3, 2026

Representative Ben Bowman, Chair  
House Rules Committee  
900 Court St. NE. H-295  
Salem, OR 97301

On behalf of the City of West Linn, we write in **strong support of SB 1517A with the -A11 or -A15 amendments**. West Linn is renowned for our extensive parks system and engaging recreation programming and needs predictable and fair liability exposure to ensure we can continue providing our treasured community recreational programming to Oregonians, especially as we manage our own budget shortfalls.

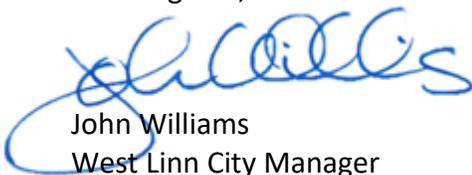
West Linn is proud to provide safe, enriching recreational opportunities for our residents and visitors. Through programs such as our adult fitness classes, youth sports, fun runs, festivals, summer camps, and outdoor education activities along our rivers and trails, we foster health, connection, and community. While these programs are generally safe, they carry inherent risks that participants should be aware of and acknowledge.

For years, cities have relied on recreation liability waivers to both inform participants of risks and manage reasonable liability exposure. However, the 2014 Bagley decision by the Oregon Supreme Court significantly limited the enforceability of those waivers. Since then, insurance costs and uncertainty have increased, placing strain on our local recreation programs and municipal budget.

SB 1517A with the -A11 or -A15 amendments restores clarity by codifying the enforceability of liability waivers for ordinary negligence, while preserving accountability for gross negligence. This balanced approach gives West Linn confidence that we can continue offering safe, accessible recreation programming without unreasonable liability risk.

We respectfully urge your support for SB 1517A with the -A11 or -A15 amendments. Community recreational programs are a vital component of quality of life for many Oregonians. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue and for your ongoing service to the people of Oregon.

Best Regards,



John Williams  
West Linn City Manager