

Submitter:

D Jenkins

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1517

I am opposed to SB 1517A as written, and in support of amendments that move this bill toward a workable solution—specifically the -A11 or -A15. Oregon needs to deeply consider passing adequate legislation for liability waiver reform. Without recognizing waivers (as every other state in the West does, except Oregon), small family run businesses in our state have far too much exposure. Because of this exposure they are not only at risk of losing their livelihoods but are unable to contribute to their communities in meaningful ways due to the increase in the potential liability they incur. I grew up rafting with my Father, it was an important part of my childhood and a memory I will hold onto forever. My father has since passed away and while I can never spend another day with him out on the water, I can advocate for reform that ensures others will be able to make the same kinds of memories I made with my Dad. Oregon's small businesses drive this state and they are taxed and legislated out of operation in some cases, this is causing irreparable harm, causing undue hardships and burdens and is making this beautiful free state a red tape nightmare. Please consider the far reaching implications of not recognizing waivers, we are smart individuals and can assume the risks of the activities we chose to partake in as adults. I should also note as a volunteer for a nonprofit we were rejected for a donation that would have otherwise been provided to the organization but they absolutely and understandably cannot assume such as risk. Thanks for your consideration of my Testimony.