

Dear Senator Floyd Prozanski,

My name is Roger Goth, and I'm a resident of Eugene. I'm writing to you not just as a constituent, but as someone whose life has been shaped by outdoor recreation.

I am a river guide in both Oregon and Idaho, a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Teacher in the Eugene area, and a volunteer with CamPah through Oregon Adaptive Sports. Outdoor recreation is not a side job for me—it is a pillar in my life and in my family's history. Both my dad, brother, and I originally guided for Orange Torpedo Trips out of Merlin, Oregon. I continue to guide to this day. The river has shaped who I am, the values I teach, and the way I serve my community.

I volunteer with CamPah, a Deaf Ski camp provided through Oregon Adaptive Sports, and have done so for 12 of the last 13 years. Many of the DHH children we coach have no other opportunities to learn to ski or experience the outdoors. I've seen firsthand how transformative those moments can be. Confidence grows. Fear turns into pride. Barriers fall away. Access to the outdoors is not a luxury; for many of the young people I work with, it is life-changing.

That is why I have been so disappointed by your opposition to SB 1593 and your continued efforts to advance SB 1517. From my perspective, SB 1593 represented a balanced, common-sense approach to liability waivers—one that would help ensure the affordability and availability of the very experiences that have shaped my life and that I now help provide to others. SB 1517, by contrast, creates more uncertainty and greater exposure for recreation providers.

Respectfully, it feels as though you are siding with a small group of well-funded trial lawyers rather than with the guides, teachers, volunteers, and the kids we serve. I know that may not be your intention, but that is how it looks from where I stand.

I ask you to please re-evaluate your position. Align yourself with the recreation industry, with the nonprofits expanding access, and with ordinary Oregonians who depend on outdoor recreation not just for business, but for growth, healing, and community. This issue matters deeply to those of us who dedicate our lives to this work.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Goth". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Roger Goth
Eugene, Oregon