

From: Nelson Mathews [<mailto:Nelson.Mathews@tpl.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2015 3:43 PM
To: Sen Edwards C; Sen Thomsen; Sen Prozanski; Sen Dembrow
Cc: Reiley Beth
Subject: HB 3367

Dear Senators:

I apologize for the late email, but I just recently learned of HB 3367 and its potential impact. On behalf of The Trust for Public Land, I ask that you vote against this bill due to its potential unintended impacts to public recreation and access in Oregon.

The requirement that a county issue a conditional use permit in order to develop a trail across EFU land will create additional costs, administrative hurdles, and challenges for land trusts that want to build trails on their lands or lands owned by farmers who have sold or donated trail easement to those land trusts.

Further, land trusts are private entities, acting to render a public benefit. To that end, trusts try to offer public access wherever viable. This legislation creates an unnecessary burden/obstacle to providing public access.

Oregonians like to get outside and providing them with opportunities to hike, bike, run and ride horses is at the core to what organizations like the Trust for Public Land and other land trusts do. Building a healthy quality of life for communities, including developing trails, is critical to attracting people to those communities, as well as their business to the local economies. Please vote no on HB 3367. Thank you for your consideration.

All the best,

Nelson

Nelson Mathews
Oregon State Director
West Division Program Director
The Trust for Public Land
805 SW Industrial Way, Suite 1
Bend, OR 97702
tel.: 541-322-0133
fax: 541-322-9723
cell: 541-350-0818
Celebrating 40 years of protecting land for people.