



May 28th, 2015

The Honorable Floyd Prozanski
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
900 Court Street NE, Rm. 331
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: House Bill 3452A

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

My name is Shelley Day. I am the Director of Community Relations for Camp Attitude Oregon, Inc. I offer this letter in response to House Bill 3452A.

Camp Attitude Oregon, Inc. ("Camp Attitude") is a very unique camp. We believe it is the only camp of its kind in the country. Camp Attitude is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and has been in existence since 1998.

Camp Attitude provides a summer camp experience to special needs families at no cost to the families. Each child (disabled and able-bodied) is paired up with a "buddy" for the week and they spend the week fishing, doing crafts, water fights and spending time at the lake, just to name a few activities. The rule at Camp Attitude is simple: anything an able bodied child gets to do, a disabled child gets to do as well.

Camp Attitude is located just east of Sweet Home along Highway 20. We own approximately 24 acres located along the middle fork of the Santiam River. The physical property has several handicapped accessible cabins and yurts, a pavilion, two "lodges" as well as other structures.

Camp Attitude operates for eight weeks every summer – from approximately the middle of June through the second week of August. We host approximately 25 families each week. Families come from all over the western United States including Utah, Idaho and Arizona in addition to Oregon, Washington and California.

During Camp Attitude's "off season" we rent the facility out to other organizations for retreats and outdoor schools. As you would expect, we have not only the organizations sign liability waivers and indemnification agreements, but we ask that each individual using the facility sign similar agreements.



House Bill 3452A would make those contracts between Camp Attitude and the individuals void.

We understand the purpose of HB 3452A is to prevent property owners from sneaking indemnification clauses into liability waivers signed by the parents of youth who are a member of an organization renting out a facility such as the property owned by Camp Attitude.

House Bill 3452A, in its current form shifts potential liability from the parents of youth to the owner of the property, because the assumption is that the property owner is in a better position to absorb those costs. And normally that would be the case. However, when the property owner is a non-profit organization or an educational organization, the ability to absorb those costs is substantially less.

Further, House Bill 3452A will likely increase the cost of liability insurance for non-profit organizations as well. Camp Attitude runs on a tight budget, increasing costs make it that much more difficult for Camp Attitude to achieve its purposes: providing a free summer camp experience to special needs families.

We have spoken with the chief sponsor of the measure and he has agreed to an amendment to exclude from the prohibitions of House Bill 3452A properties owned by non-profit organizations or educational organizations. Camp Attitude's legal counsel is working with legislative counsel to have the amendments prepared for your consideration. We appreciate very much Representative Weidner's willingness to amend this bill to avoid unintentional consequences.

Finally, I would like to extend an invitation to everyone on the committee to spend a day at Camp Attitude this summer. Camp Attitude is a remarkable place that touches the lives of hundreds of families each year. Those of us who have special needs children know of Camp Attitude, but my job is to make those of you who do not have a special needs child in your family more aware of our very special camp.

I can say with absolute certainty that a week at Camp Attitude will change your life forever.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shelley Day

shelley@campattitude.com

Camp Attitude Oregon, Inc. is one of America's premier fully wheelchair accessible camping facilities located in the mountain top area of Central Oregon. Our camp is for children with physical challenges, their siblings and parents. The week long summer camps are five days in length. Everyone who attends the camp, comes FREE of charge. We provide a wonderful experience for year round usage and to serve the ever increasing number of people with diverse disabilities, in helping people become emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive. We have a team of trained volunteers who provide support for every child for each day of the camp, becoming a special friendship with each camper they serve.

All of the camp trails are asphalt covered. Cozy rooms, craft and meeting areas, restrooms, the playground area, a fishing pond, & dining area are fully accessible. Activities may include but are not limited to water sports, fishing, swimming, boating, horse program, arts and crafts, nature walks environmental educational activities. Every evening is an all camp meeting that includes special music with camp songs, videos, skits, guest speakers and plenty of laughs and good times, concluding with a bonfire with smores.

"Have the Attitude of Christ." Phil. 2:5

For more information about Camp Attitude, please visit our website at

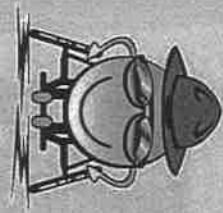
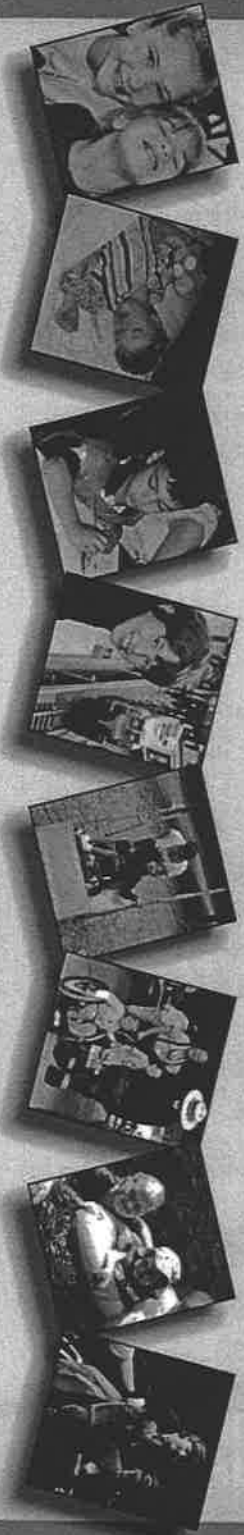
www.campattitude.com

Contact us at 1.541.367.3420

Email us at camp@campattitude.com

Come and visit Camp Attitude!

Call us and set up an appointment to visit.



Camp Attitude

PO Box 207 Foster, OR 97345
Phone (541) 367-3420

CAMP ATTITUDE



Changing Lives ...



One Camper at a time!



It is probably safe to assume that all of us attended summer camp at one time or another when we were younger. Summer camp was all about the experiences, the friends and the lifelong memories.

Now, imagine being a young person in a wheelchair or with physical challenges that makes attending summer camp a virtual impossibility. That's where Camp Attitude comes in. Visit www.campattitude.com Our camp is totally wheelchair accessible and designed to meet the needs of those with physical challenges, giving these young people that chance to have the experience of a lifetime and to create their own memories.



Camp Attitude Oregon, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Your gift donations will go to the project you designate. All who donate will be sent a monthly receipt, with an annual receipt of your giving totals provided for your tax purposes.

We encourage your generous giving to our Camp Attitude Oregon, Inc. causes:

1. Camp, pay a child's way to attend
2. Construction of Camps
3. Helping & Encouraging Individuals
4. General Funds

All monies received go directly into Camp Attitude Oregon, Inc. to further the mission of the organization. Rest assured, we are committed to being good stewards of your gifts & donations. The team at Camp Attitude Oregon, Inc. is very thankful for your contributions.



Camp Attitude (fully wheelchair accessible), is located on 41 acres of forested land. This beautiful property engulfs the South Santiam River, and can accommodate up to 300 individuals for special day events, as well as 150 campers per night. We have 6 log cabins that sleep 20 campers each. We have 10 RV spots with full hookups. People can enjoy fishing, hiking, a local lake 4 miles from camp and other outdoor activities. We have over two miles of paved trails, and a very large covered activity center.



If you or someone you know has a loved one with a disability, then you understand there are many additional costs (hospital stays, medications, Doctor appointments, caregiving, etc.) that the average family doesn't face. With this in mind, we at Camp Attitude strongly believe that every child with a disability and their family should not have to pay to experience summer camp. That means we rely wholly on generous donations of individuals and organizations to ensure we never have to turn a child away.

YOU can make a difference!

Camp Attitude

PO Box 207 ∞ Foster, OR 97345
Phone (541) 367-3420

**For more information visit
www.campattitude.com**

"Camp is a time when she (Bryten) gets to just be a kid. No limits, no questions, no watching from the sidelines...but instead she just gets to be a normal kid in the middle of life"

T. Figgins, Mom from Portland, OR



"Camp Attitude is a place where dreams really do come true. You can't help but to catch the spirit when you see the smiles on these kid's faces."

Eric Brelle, CA Volunteer

"This camp is truly a reflection of Christ's love for ALL his children. The camp fosters real and genuine acceptance."

Trisha McCreedy, Mom from OR



Please Note: Camp Attitude's facilities are available to rent. Please contact our office at (541) 367-3420 for any questions and costs.

