Dear Senate Committee members,

I'm writing today as a property owner a block from a current trailhead for the Deschutes River Trail in Bend. I see many people using this point for access to the amazing public resource to run, hike, or float the river.

The bridge that HB2027 impacts would benefit many people who live south of Bend and give them the same access that we enjoy. I believe the decision about whether to build a bridge should be made locally in Bend, not at the state level, and ask for your support in revising HB2027 as it currently stands.

From experience, I can say that having a trail access point in our neighborhood has brought our community closer together because we constantly run into neighbors on the trail. I acknowledge that having public access to the trail means things are busier in summer months. However, my wife and I both feel this is worth the trade-off to give anyone in Bend access to this fantastic resource.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the above.

Thanks!

Dakota and Chelsea Gale 19970 Alderwood Circle Bend, OR 97702