



February 11, 2023

Senate Committee on Judiciary  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: SB 754 Recreational Liability Reform

Dear Chair Prozanski & Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you in support of SB 754 Recreational Liability Reform as the Vice President & General Manager for Mt Hood Skibowl, summer and winter resort.

As you may be aware, Mt. Hood Skibowl was the defendant of a mountain biking lawsuit that received an unprecedented plaintiff verdict for \$11.5MM. The magnitude of this verdict inevitably forced us to make the difficult decision to suspend all mountain bike operations starting in the summer of 2022. That ended a 32 year run without a serious mountain bike claim of any kind.

Our industry has focused heavily on user education and operational best practices, while working hard toward mitigating risk wherever possible. Eliminating all risks with recreational activities—especially in downhill mountain biking through forests at high speed—is something that is just not possible.

Oregon ski area operators and many other recreational outfitters are facing the enormously impactful challenge – recreational liability for activities that are inherently risky. We have seen some significant lawsuits based on recreational activities with outcomes that make operating a small, recreational business in the state exceedingly challenging.

For the reasons above, we are asking for your support on voting YES on SB 754 Recreational Liability Reform.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Quinn".

Mike Quinn  
VP/GM  
Mt Hood Skibowl