



AWOL Dance Collective
513 NE Schuyler St
Portland OR 97212

February 13, 2023

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

Re: SB 754 Recreational Liability Reform

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

A-WOL Dance Collective is a small, Portland based non-profit that believes that the arts build community and enhance the quality of life. Art, in its various forms, fosters creativity, empowers individuals, and brings people together. A-WOL's warehouse headquarters offers a place of belonging for its patrons. Our students become friends with one another, our audience hangs out before and after shows, our volunteers mingle with our performers and our staff takes great ownership in our organization. Many have told us that they have found a sense of meaning and belonging by being a part of A-WOL in various ways. We do all this through aerial arts performance and education, both youth and adult classes.

We, like any non-profit, work on a very tight budget and try to put all our funds towards education and sharing our art at an affordable rate to the community, including offering free shows throughout the year. Any increase in insurance is going to cause harm to our business and our ability to support the community at large. We also don't want to see an increase in risk with a lack of any backing to liability waivers.

Oregon needs to establish a balanced approach between personal responsibility and business accountability like all other Western states.

Sincerely,

Bethany Foran, Executive Director