



February 14, 2023

To: Judiciary Committee Members  
Oregon State Senate

Re: Letter of Support for SB 754

Dear Chair Prozanski:

I am writing today, as the Executive Director of Southern Oregon's Regional Destination Management Organization, in support SB 754 as it comes before you this session.

Based on a Travel Oregon 2019 study looking at the economic impacts of the outdoor recreation, in Southern Oregon alone there was more than \$1 billion in related trip-spending and more than 14,000 jobs associated with outdoor recreation activities. Outdoor recreation is a significant driver of our tourism economy in Southern Oregon.

And from everything I've heard from attractions operators and guides and outfitters, the lack of legal protection from liability waivers signed by participants is a significant burden on their businesses. SB 754 would allow such liability waivers, signed by participants who understand the nature of outdoor recreation and agree to assume some risks (not from negligence), to have a protective force for guides and operators. Our outdoor recreation industry is asking for this legislation and I hope you can support it.

Thank you for your efforts on this key piece of legislation impacting our state's tourism economy.

Appreciatively,

Robert Hackett  
Executive Director  
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