

Submitter: Patricia Rossitto

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB679

I am urging support for SB 679 for funding for the completion of the Oregon Coast Trail.

I walked/hiked the OCT from 1997-2006. The experience was absolutely awesome. BUT, there were several difficult, even terrifying "gaps." Having to walk exposed on the highway alongside speeding cars and semis, almost hugging the cliffs, or trying to distance myself by walking inside the metal barrier on sloping ground made my thrill something different than a happy thrill.

I did segments over the years because of being employed and having a family. But it would be so wonderful to more easily do a through hike by having the gaps completed, and also some kind of food/shelter spaced in between the longer segments on the southern coast.

Having walked/hiked the 500 mile Camino de Santiago in Spain, and having food and shelter every five to ten miles, it makes me wish our beautiful Oregon coast could serve a similar roll to the many people seeking an adventure on our wild, rugged, challenging, but peaceful Pacific coast.

Cabins and yurts often housed me on my coastal journey. It would be so helpful to have small yurt/cabin villages along the way, wether privately or publicly owned.

Thank you for your consideration.

Trish Rossitto, life-long Oregonian.