

Submitter: Daniel Coyle
On Behalf Of: Self and Coyle Outside Youth Programs
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB1576

Support for Recreational Immunity Fix Amendment to SB 1576

I am a 30+ year resident in Oregon and the owner of a company, www.coyleoutside.com that provides outdoor youth programming and education to thousands of Oregon youth and students yearly through Summer programs, After School and Homeschool programs and Oregon Outdoor School.

The work we do with youth **DEPENDS** on the types of protections Recreational Immunity provides. Organizations like mine are the point of the spear in getting kids outside and creating access to the outdoors for kids. We regularly use trails on public and private property to access nature, especially in areas closer to where youth live that they access most easily where federal land and state parks that may have sufficient resources to guarantee access in the absence of recreational immunity often require transportation accommodations.

Its well documented that American (including Oregonian) youth spend time outside **LESS** than any previous generation. Creating further barriers to access will obviously accelerate that trend. Outdoor experiential opportunities are widely acknowledged and supported by research as uniquely and overwhelmingly critical to childhood and development and this is facilitated in important parts by access to trail systems.

Its problematic simply that this discussion is being had/considered. I would request considered a 'counter proposal' that further **REDUCES** any liabilities that might currently be limiting access to the natural world for youth specifically. Children and childhood are **ENTIRELY** vulnerable to curtailment as children have no vote or say and depend entirely on the adult society to provide sufficient and diverse access. Its beyond frustrating that this is an issue up for consideration. Ending immunity is the **WRONG** direction to go in.

Be responsible and accountable to the youth of our state and pass SB 1576-3 with language that clearly restores recreational immunity for public and private landowners and clearly applies to both improved and unimproved trails

Thanks in advance for your committed and vigorous defense of Recreational Immunity and advocacy for further protections that enhance youth access to the outdoors. I am available to provide further input by phone or otherwise. Daniel Coyle, founder of Coyle Outside, 5417600774