



Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am the Vice President for the Central Oregon Nordic Club (CONC), an organization with over 500 members and a chapter of the statewide Oregon Nordic Club. I am testifying on behalf of CONC and in support of the Recreational Immunity Fix Amendment to SB 1576.

The Central Oregon Nordic Club is a volunteer organization that works to enhance cross-country skiing snowshoeing and hiking in Central Oregon by organizing ski, snowshoe and hiking outings; we also maintain over 100 miles of ski and snowshoe trails, build and maintain winter warming shelters and teach Nordic skills to encourage winter recreation. Our volunteers typically contribute over 3,500 hours a year in constructing and maintaining winter trails, including building or maintaining bridges and other trail structures.

We have had volunteers express some concern over possibly exposing themselves to liability by doing the work that is needed to keep our network of trails in place. Passing SB1575-3 with language that restores recreational immunity for public and private landowners would help us keep our base of volunteers and help us to continue to support winter recreation that is such an important part of the life and economy in Central Oregon.

Thank you for taking on this important task of considering improvements to this legislation.

Sincerely,

Susan Sullivan  
for the Central Oregon Nordic Club