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February 12, 2024

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

**RE: Support for SB 1576-3**

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, Members of the Committee:

Metro supports SB 1576 with the -3 amendment.

Metro is the regional government entity that manages more than 18,000 acres of parks, trails and natural areas across every community in the region – from Chehalem Ridge on the west to the Sandy River Gorge on the east, from Blue Lake and Smith and Bybee Wetlands on the north to Graham Oaks on the south. Across greater Portland, Metro supports community nature projects, from park building to stream restoration to pollinator gardens. By connecting residents and community organizations to each other, Metro helps build a greater sense of community as the community helps nature.

A recent court decision, *Fields v. Newport*, has led put Oregonians in the Metro region and around the state at risk of losing access to parks and trails. That is why we need SB 1576-3, which would provide a temporary fix to recreational immunity statutes and allow stakeholders to work towards a more comprehensive fix to recreational immunity statutes in the future.

We urge your support on SB 1576-3.

Sincerely,

Jenna Jones  
State and Regional Affairs Advisor  
Metro