

February 18, 2026

All Oregon State Senators (Please Deliver)
The Honorable Senate President Rob WagnerSen.RobWagner@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: Proposed Oregon liability waiver bills (S.B. 1593 vs. S.B. 1517)

Dear Senators:

We understand both S.B. 1593 and S.B. 1517, ostensibly relating to the enforcement of recreational liability releases or waivers in Oregon for ordinary negligence, may soon be before you for a floor vote in this 2026 short session in Oregon. Safehold Sports provides insurance coverage to a wide range of recreational providers, including mountain biking, ski areas, ice skating rinks, climbing walls, zip lines, and a wide range of other recreational activities across the country. With our long history of insuring recreational providers in Oregon, I can tell you, unequivocally, S.B. 1517 will not remotely improve the insurance crisis gripping Oregon recreation providers.

Safehold urges you to support S.B. 1593, which cleanly allows for the enforceability of releases like every other western state, and we urge you to vote against S.B. 1517, which is an astonishing give away to Oregon trial attorneys:

- S.B. 1593 is *unanimously supported* by Oregon's recreation industry, which is overwhelmingly made up of smaller, family-owned businesses;
- S.B. 1517—which was crafted in conjunction with the Oregon Trial Lawyers Association—has such massive exceptions to when releases can be enforced, releases would never been enforced given these massive exceptions.

Indeed, S.B. 1517 does *nothing* to solve Oregon's current insurance, and that bill is *actually worse* than current Oregon law. Safehold knows Oregon's insurance climate well—for the past 10 years, 50% of all of Safehold's national insurance claims and settlement costs have come from one state—Oregon—forcing Safehold to leave the state given this terrible litigation climate. No other state remotely has these gaping exceptions to release enforcement, and for good reason: Insurance providers, like most businesses, need a measure of predictability, and without it, premiums will spike *even higher* in Oregon, *directly as a result of S.B. 1517*. We respectfully urge you to support the recreation in Oregon by voting ***NO!*** on S.B. 1517, and voting ***YES*** on S.B. 1593.

Respectfully submitted,

William Curtis
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From the Desk of Senator Mark Meek

