

Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazan, and members of the committee, I am reaching out to urge you to support SB 1593.

SB 1593 is a necessary liability waiver reform bill for Oregon recreation and fitness organizations like mine. My wife and I own/operate the Academy of Modern Martial Arts. We provide personal safety and self defense training to children, teens, and adults.

Oregon's lack of liability waiver protection impacts the accessibility and affordability of recreation and fitness for people across the state. **Oregon businesses are now paying significantly more for liability insurance than other states.** As a result, recreation and fitness providers are forced to either increase consumer costs or eliminate recreation options altogether.

Rising business costs disproportionately impact small businesses and rural communities. This bill will help keep recreation/fitness affordable, especially for my low-income customers.

This bill will simply return Oregon to the same liability standard as every other western state. Now, Oregon businesses shoulder substantially all the risk, and this imbalance threatens the viability of businesses like mine and recreation options for people across the state.

Thank you for your service to our community.

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