

Submitter: Scott Heesacker

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

Dear Chairman Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Scott Heesacker, and I am the owner of NWJetboatCharter.com. We are a small, family-owned business operating in rural Oregon, providing jet boat charter services that are vital to our local tourism and economy.

I am writing to acknowledge that the ongoing issue of unenforceable liability waivers in Oregon has severely affected our business, contributing to a legal liability environment and increasing insurance costs that are becoming unsustainable.

We strongly urge you to oppose **HB 1517**. This legislation is narrowly focused on addressing the liability issue only for ski areas, and in doing so, it completely ignores the thousands of other small businesses and non-profits—including outfitters, guides, and trail organizations—that are facing the exact same crisis. HB 1517 is a distraction from, and ignores, our support for the broader, more comprehensive ORCA2026 act.

Instead of supporting a bill that isolates one segment of our industry, we ask that you oppose HB 1517 and instead lend your full support to **SB 1593** and **HB 4701**, which offer a balanced solution for all recreation and fitness providers across our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our testimony.

Sincerely,
Scott Heesacker
NWJetboatCharter.com