

Submitter: Michael Ryan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

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

Portland Rock Gym is celebrating its anniversary today, February 5th, 2026. The owner, Gary Rall, lives in Portland and has owned and operated Portland Rock Gym for 38 years. PRG is a family run business that has been a hub in the climbing community since it opened. Insurance costs, driven up by Oregon's unenforceable liability waivers, continue to rise each year. These rising costs are really hurting the business. Year after year the insurance costs rise and fewer insurers want to take on the challenge of offering insurance to a climbing gym in Oregon.

SB1517 only addresses the liability issue for ski areas but ignores the wider outdoor industry. SB1517 does not help any of the other small businesses or non-profits that need waivers that are enforceable.

SB1517 is not the solution. Please support the ORCA2026 act and SB1593 and HB4701.

-Mike Ryan
Operations Director
Portland Rock Gym