

Submitter: Megan Fulton  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1593

Dear Senators and Representatives, I am writing to express my strong support for [HB 4071 or SB 1593], also known as the Oregon Recreation Commerce and Affordability Act of 2026 (ORCA), which concerns making liability waivers for recreational providers enforceable once again. Since 2014, state court rulings have nullified the use of liability waivers in Oregon, resulting in loss of insurance, skyrocketing premiums, higher prices for consumers, and fewer opportunities for Oregon families to enjoy recreational activities. Every other western state, including California and Washington, recognize liability waivers. This bipartisan legislation would bring Oregon back into legal alignment with the rest of the West Coast and Mountain West and protect Oregonians' access to safe and affordable recreation. This bill does not absolve businesses from being held accountable for gross negligence; it restores common sense to our state's justice system that has undermined liability waivers that deal with the inherent risk present in numerous outdoor activities. Without reform, these outdated court rulings will continue to threaten both the recreational activities that Oregonian families love and cherish, as well as harm small businesses and this vital part of Oregon's economy and way of life. As someone who is an avid winter sports enthusiast who enjoys outdoor recreation in Oregon, this issue is of great importance to me and my community. I urge you to support this bill, as it will have a significant impact on Oregon families and businesses. I also urge you to oppose SB 1517, which would be harmful to ski resorts, is too narrowly focused, and would not protect the wide variety of recreational activities that are present in Oregon. Your leadership on this issue is crucial, and I hope you will consider the perspectives of your constituents, including my own, as you make your decision. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,  
Megan