

Submitter: Augustina Mourelatos
On Behalf Of: The Citizens and Snow Sports enthusiasts of Oregon
Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1593

To Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazan, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government:

My name is Augustina Mourelatos, and I am a resident of Southeast Portland (Zip Code 97215).

I am writing to express my abject disapproval and firm objection to SB 1593 and HB 4071.

I have reviewed the 52 entries of support currently on the record for this bill. It is telling that this supposed "outpouring of support" is almost exclusively comprised of top-tier executives from Oregon's most profitable recreational corporations—including the President of Timberline Lodge, the VP of Mt. Hood Meadows, and the GM of Mt. Bachelor. This is not a list of concerned citizens; it is a list of corporate officers lobbying for the legal right to be negligent without consequence.

These entities generate tens, and in some cases, hundreds of millions of dollars in annual revenue. For instance, Mt. Bachelor generates an estimated \$175M–\$200M annually, while Mt. Hood Meadows has seen consistent pass price hikes reaching over \$1,100.

These organizations are not facing an "affordability crisis"; they are seeking to maximize their bottom line by externalizing the cost of their negligence onto the citizens of Oregon.

This issue is not theoretical for me; it is deeply personal. I live every day with the consequences of a traumatic brain injury (TBI) sustained because a corporation failed to maintain basic safety standards. I know firsthand that when a business is allowed to cut corners on safety, it is a life-altering reality for the people they serve. If SB 1593 had been in place when I was injured, I would have been stripped of my right to hold that entity accountable for the negligence that changed my life. Furthermore, codifying "mandatory waivers" sets a dangerous precedent. If the recreation industry is allowed to strip us of our right to hold them accountable, what stops other high-profit industries—from healthcare to housing—from demanding similar "take-it-or-leave-it" immunity?

This is not a local industry adjustment; it is a systemic erosion of consumer protections that will leave every citizen vulnerable to corporate overreach.

As a frequent participant in Oregon's outdoor industry, I have seen firsthand that

rising costs are not being reinvested into safety, staffing, or maintenance. Granting broad enforceability to liability waivers removes the only meaningful incentive these entities have to maintain safe environments.

I urge you to vote NO on SB 1593 and HB 4071. Do not allow the volume of corporate testimony from wealthy executives to outweigh the physical safety and constitutional rights of the individual citizens you represent.

Sincerely,
Augustina Mourelatos
Portland, OR 97215