

Submitter: Darren Roe
On Behalf Of: Crater Lake Zipline
Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1593

Dear Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazan, and members of the committee,
My name is Darren Roe and I am with Crater Lake Zipline. I strongly support the Oregon Recreation Commerce and Affordability Act of 2026 (ORCA) - SB1593. I write you today as a 40+ year outfitter and guide in Oregon. Wow, have things changed.

Our company currently offers Zipline/canopy tours (first ever built on national forest), kayak tours and rentals, kids adventure park, axe throwing arena, UTV tours, family friendly fishing tours, food and beverages and educational hiking tours. We have been listed in the top 15 Zipline's WORLDWIDE and have received trip advisor awards 3 times for being in the top 10% of activities to do WORLDWIDE. Significant accomplishments. It's important to us to provide an excellent product to our states visitors while showing them things they would only see with our guidance. The revenue we generate, jobs we produce and reputation we have created are all vital to our region and community.

Even though we can boast about our safety record and training, the cost of insurance still has skyrocketed to levels that could sustain several individuals with a great living wage, but instead is paid just to open our facilities annually, let alone the fear of not being able to get insurance in which case we all lose our livelihood. I fear this could happen if Oregon's recreation liability issue is not fixed.

As we all know, the lack of enforceable waivers increases costs, lowers wages, and limits access and affordability. Ultimately closing opportunities for new businesses and the future generations of entrepreneurs in the outdoor recreation industry that Oregon so proudly boasts of, will fade away along with its legacy.

ORCA is a simple and balanced solution that is already proven to work, and is what every other Western state already does (and Oregon used to do). That it would bring us in line with the states around us and with the federal government. If the federal government is using this model, why wouldn't Oregon?

I would fully Support the state in conducting an economic study to better quantify Oregon's large and sustainable outdoor industry.

I would like to make sure the committee understands how much we appreciate the time and effort spent on this bill. It's necessary and a needed component in the recreation industry. Without your help, our ability to pass along Oregon's outdoor experiences and share our passion will fade away.

Thank you so much

Darren Roe

Lifetime Oregon resident

