

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

After being their first hand for the incident that happened at Ski Bowl that got the bike park shut down and ended in a \$10.5 million lawsuit. These loop holes need to be shut down. The person in question was out of control and on the wrong equipment for the terrain being ridden. He was somebody I knew in the community for a long time and this is not something I take lightly. When you put yourself in these situations, you should assume the risk. Because of this incident, we lost one of the few bike parks we have in Oregon. I understand there were other circumstances, but when you go full speed down a mountain on a bicycle, you should understand that there are consequences and not place blame on other people for your lack of control. We need some common sensory reform to prevent frivolous lawsuits. I'm not saying we need complete immunity from gross negligence, but the decisions made in 2014 opened a door for everyone to take a swing at trying to get some free money. The lawyers in our Senate do not want this change and have made it difficult for reform as they don't want to lose their cash cow. If changes aren't made, our recreational industry will collapse. Oregon prides itself on it's beautiful outdoor activities, but if no one can get insurance to run their operations, they will cease to exist.