

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

My name is Brandon Worthington, and I co-own Worthington Fly Fishing LLC with my wife Bridget. We are a fly fishing guide service based in rural southwest Oregon, operating on the Rogue, Klamath, and Umpqua Rivers.

I strongly support the Oregon Recreation Commerce and Affordability Act of 2026 (ORCA) – SB 1593.

Guiding is our livelihood and an important economic driver for the rural communities we serve. Our business supports local jobs, brings visitors to Oregon, and connects people to public lands through responsible, conservation-minded recreation.

Rising insurance premiums and legal costs pose a growing threat to our ability to operate. The lack of enforceable liability waivers in Oregon increases uncertainty, drives up costs, and creates real concern that affordable insurance may no longer be available. This ultimately raises prices, lowers wages, and limits public access to outdoor recreation.

ORCA offers a simple, balanced, and proven solution. It restores the enforceability of liability waivers in a manner already used by every other Western state and by the federal government—and one Oregon itself previously followed. Passing SB 1593 would bring Oregon back in line with surrounding states and provide much-needed clarity and stability for small outdoor businesses.

I also support conducting an economic study to better quantify the size and importance of Oregon's outdoor recreation economy.

Thank you for your leadership on SB 1593 and for supporting policies that allow outfitters and guides to continue getting people outside safely and affordably.

Respectfully,

Brandon Worthington
Worthington Fly Fishing LLC
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