

Submitter: Alexander Walt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1590

To: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

SUBJECT: Support SB 1590

Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair McDonald, and members of the committee,

For the record my name is Alex Walt and I live in Portland. I am an outdoor enthusiast writing to you in strong support of SB 1590.

Spending time on public lands comprises the largest block of my recreation time. Fishing, hunting, mountain biking, skiing, hiking, and camping with my family is what fulfills me and is essential to my wellbeing and culture.

I'm also committed to wildlife conservation and am concerned about how transferring lands from the public to the private may set back progress made for ESA species (such as Pacific salmon spp and steelhead) at risk of continued population decline.

Large public spaces are essential for the longevity of healthy urban-wildland balance in the Pacific Northwest. Stripping our community of access to these spaces is likely a one way road and an irreversible step that degrades the access and opportunity for folks to decompress in healthy nature spaces provided by our public lands.

These lands are our land, these lands are your lands, but if you strike down SB 1590, the lands will be someone else's land with a no trespassing sign. No thanks.

I urge your support of SB 1590.

Sincerely,  
Alex Walt