



# JACKSON COUNTY

## Parks

### Roads and Parks Administration

Steve Lambert  
*Director*

200 Antelope Rd.  
White City, OR 97503  
Phone: 541-774-6238  
lambersm@jacksoncountyor.gov

[www.jacksoncountyor.gov](http://www.jacksoncountyor.gov)

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House Committee on Rules  
Chair, Rep. Ben Bowman  
Vice-Chair, Rep. Lucetta Elmer  
Vice-Chair, Rep. Hai Pham

RE: SB 1517 – **Support -A11 and -A15 amendments**

Chair Bowman, Members of the Committee:

Jackson County provides robust recreation opportunities that are a significant positive benefit to the health of our residents, our communities, and are drivers of our local economy. Whether skiing, rafting, fishing, boating, or simply taking part in your local recreation programs, recreation promotes a vibrant community.

Jackson County Parks operates over 20 park facilities, 900-plus campsites, group camps, 12 boat ramps and rents both motorboats and non-motorized watercraft across the county. We bring visitors to our region, visitors who spend money at our local businesses and help Jackson County have the robust parks program we provide. 61% of our guests are Jackson County residents, with an impressive 39% from out of county (28% of which are from at least 150 miles away).

**Jackson County opposes SB 1517A as written** because it is fraught with ambiguities and is a step backward in the effort to protect recreation providers and the citizens we serve.

**We have supported SB 1593 and the protections that it provides, which can also be found in the SB 1517 -A11 amendments, which we support.**

We appreciate the work that so many people have put into finding a compromise, and as such **are agreeable to supporting the -A15 amendments**, as we are willing to give up specific protection for broad applicability of waivers.

Thank you for your attention to this complex issue – we hope to finally have clarity and a path forward with the compromise amendments and we ask that you please continue working on the important issue being tackled in SB 1517 and thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,

Steve Lambert  
Director