

Submitter: Elena Kress

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1517

I oppose this measure, specifically 13b wherein a business or individual cannot have participants sign a waiver for injury sustained on the property. As a Yoga Instructor (fitness) this represents an undo burden on my business. Many instructors are independent contractors working in business who are renting from another individual. We have little to no control or knowledge of issues on the property. Being held responsible for an injury in a parking lot simply because that person came to a class is unconscionable. In addition, I have also worked as a lifeguard at public pools. Children riding bikes or skateboards to and from pools often play and do tricks in the parking lot. Holding a pool responsible for actions that are discouraged, where signs may even be provided, is unreasonable.

I think this bill is unreasonable because of the excessive burden it places on small businesses and public institutions. It is already hard enough to deal with insurance companies without another layer of state law that would make it next to impossible to fight a lawsuit backed by an insurance company.

I urge you to vote no on this bill!