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Comments: To whom it may concern ,

the proposal to retroactively ban all Climbing bolts would be a detriment to the sport of climbing, but more importantly, to nature as climbers, take care of the forest and the climbing areas more than anybody else. As a climber myself, I am constantly finding myself taken care of many different trails that are also main hiking trails, picking up dozens of handfuls of trash left behind by hikers climbing has been a major part of American history. Since the 1950s and climbers are responsible for a lot of preservation in America, and they want to see this preservation continue and give the opportunity that the older generations had to the new generations with respect to the forest in the surrounding areas. hope this letter finds you well.

Rock climbing bolts play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of climbers, allowing them to explore diverse terrains while minimizing risks. The banning of bolts could lead to increased danger for climbers, as relying solely on natural features may not always provide adequate protection.

Moreover, the presence of established climbing routes with bolts encourages responsible and sustainable climbing practices. Banning bolts might push climbers to seek uncharted areas, risking environmental damage and disturbing fragile ecosystems. By maintaining designated climbing routes, we can better manage and protect our natural landscapes.

Rock climbing is a sport that transcends age, background, and skill level, providing a platform for individuals to challenge themselves physically and mentally. A ban on climbing bolts could limit access to this enriching activity, hindering the growth of the climbing community and depriving people of the associated health benefits.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider the broader implications of a potential ban on rock climbing bolts. Preserving this aspect of our outdoor culture is not just about the sport itself but also about promoting safety, environmental stewardship, and the well-being of countless individuals who find joy and fulfillment in the world of rock climbing.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Weir