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Comments: I'm writing to, hopefully, impact the decision on prohibition of fixed anchors and gear in the Black Hills climbing areas. As a climber myself, I can't imagine what this would do to not only my family, who are as Iso avid climbers, but the community in the Black Hills. I, personally, have been taught to climb by peers who gave me specific knowledge on how to appropriately use fixed anchors and what the improper use of this gear will do to not only the climber on the end of the rope, but the rock and landscape we are climbing! This is a very prominent part of learning to climb. I cannot say how many times my climbing partners have quizzed me on the proper use of fixed anchors, and in turn, I have passed on this information to climbers after me.

Not only is the climbing community of the black hills passionate about safety, they are passionate about maintaining the integrity of our wilderness and national/state park lands.

If this motion were to pass, I would no longer be enabled to climb in the black hills, seeking out other climbing areas in the region. I value our land and will always pass on the knowledge and importance of maintaining our beautiful home. I know many of the members of Black Hills Climber Coalition and trust their expertise in placing and maintaining bolts, anchors and other necessary safety gear while preserving the rock that we so proudly climb. Please think of my family of climbers, my four year old son who is learning to climb in this wonderful place we call home, who will no longer be able to sport climb safely if this motion comes to pass. This would be a truly devastatimf decision for our local climbing community and all who travel to the black hills to climb, as it is a marvelous place and one of the most intriguing areas to climb granite walls.

I wholeheartedly endorse the efforts of the Access Fund and the Black Hills Climbers Coalition in preserving climbing access and advocating for responsible bolt placement. Their dedication to maintaining climbing access and environmental conservation is crucial, and I stand behind their initiatives.

Janae Ziegler