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First name: Jeremy

Last name: Jacob

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To those it concerns,

My name is Jeremy Jacob. I'm a recent high-school graduate who has been climbing for the better part of a year. I'm sure you've heard many critiques about the proposed classification of climbing bolts as "fixtures," so I won't repeat a tired sentiment. I just wanted to share a personal side: that climbing has changed my life for the better. The sport has given me reason to get out of my house, get off social media, and go and enjoy the natural wonders my state has been blessed with. Without safe recreational activities, our parkland becomes purely decorative in nature-something we can only see, not touch. I think in the long term, policies that create a disconnect between people and their (access to) nature will serve only to foster indifference in the public. An indifferent public means lack of political and social support for initiatives and continued maintenance. That kind of apathy will cause much greater damage over the course of decades than any specific measure might prevent.

I understand your job is a precarious one-where many considerations must be balanced. That said, I urge you to rethink this legislation and work with climber advocate groups to find that balance that maintains access while minimizing impact.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Jacob