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Title:

Comments: I am writing this to express my concerns and objection towards the proposed legislation regarding climbing bolts and hardware installation. It compromises the ability to safely access and explore the wonderful climbing offered throughout the country; in a way that does not address the actual concerns that caused this legislation to be addressed. From an ethics standpoint; the vast majority of the climbing community that does development has a very strong sense of LNT ethics and looks for ways to minimize impact on an area; while also bolstering plenty of stewardship and upkeep work to improve the managed areas that people enjoy climbing at! On top of this, is good ethos towards bolt installation and maintenance. With better material science, and products available, there are now plenty of extremely low impact hardware options that can be safely maintained and serviced without defacing or destroying the rock they occupy. That being said; of course there will always be people that do not follow the rules or ethics. Just because they do exist, does not mean that you should remove the ability for the community and access groups to go about doing this the right way. These kinds of policies don't work, they never have. They only ever stop those who are willing to follow policies and rules, and do not address the underlying issue at hand anyways. Perhaps let's move over to a permitted or licence system for hardware installation and maintenance.