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Comments: I wanted to submit my concerns about the fixed anchor proposal. As a climber, mountain biker, skier, and hiker, I find community, fulfillment, and connection when recreating in our shared outdoor areas. I'm particularly concerned about this proposal because it will exclude a large number of individuals from pursuing their passion and recreating in our outdoor spaces.

The proponents of this proposal claim it is necessary for the protection of our natural spaces, but this proposal is merely exclusivity and gatekeeping masking as environmentalism. Climbing is becoming more popular and more noticeable, and rather than embracing the enthusiasm of these newcomers to the outdoors, proponents of this bill seek to remove the crowds by undermining the sport itself. Its very hard to argue that bolts and anchors placed high above the ground are having an impact on the environment and aesthetics of an area compared to the cars, parking lots, new trails, and trash left by visitors in many outdoor spaces. In Yosemite, for example, fixed anchors placed on El Capitan and Half Dome are not visible from the valley floor. However, every visitor to the valley sees the giant line of cars waiting at the entrance, the huge parking areas, and the 150,000 square foot hotel.

Generally speaking, climbers are strong advocates for the outdoors, and do their best to minimize impact. Rather than prohibiting the activity (make no mistake, adding additional bureaucracy to the maintenance of fixed anchors is effectively a ban), let's embrace this activity that allows people to find peace, solace, and fulfillment in the outdoors.